

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2123

To reauthorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 5, 2005

Mr. CASTLE (for himself, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. McKEON, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. REGULA, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. PUTNAM, and Mr. SULLIVAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To reauthorize the Head Start Act to improve the school readiness of disadvantaged children, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “School Readiness Act
5 of 2005”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7 Section 636 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831)
8 is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 636. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.**

2 “It is the purpose of this subchapter to promote
3 school readiness by enhancing the development of low-in-
4 come children, through educational instruction in
5 prereading skills, premathematics skills, and language,
6 and through the provision to low-income children and their
7 families of health, educational, nutritional, social and
8 other services that are determined, based on family needs
9 assessments, to be necessary.”.

10 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

11 Section 637 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832)
12 is amended—

13 (1) in paragraph (17) by striking “, but for fis-
14 cal years” and all that follows down to the period;

15 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (15), (16), and
16 (17) as paragraphs (19), (20), and (21), respec-
17 tively;

18 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (10) through
19 (14) as paragraphs (13) through (17), respectively;

20 (4) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through
21 (9) as paragraphs (5) through (11), respectively;

22 (5) by redesignating paragraph (2) as para-
23 graph (3);

24 (6) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
25 lowing:

26 “(2) The term ‘deficiency’ means—

1 “(A) failure of a Head Start agency in an
2 area of performance that the Secretary deter-
3 mines involves—

4 “(i) a threat to the health, safety, or
5 civil rights of children or staff;

6 “(ii) a denial to parents of the exer-
7 cise of their full roles and responsibilities
8 related to program governance;

9 “(iii) a failure to perform the require-
10 ments of this subchapter, as determined by
11 the Secretary;

12 “(iv) the misuse of funds received
13 under this subchapter;

14 “(v) loss of legal status (as deter-
15 mined by the Secretary) or financial viabil-
16 ity, loss of permits, debarment from receiv-
17 ing Federal grants or contracts, or the im-
18 proper use of Federal funds; or

19 “(vi) failure to meet any other of Fed-
20 eral or State requirement;

21 “(B) failure of the board of directors of a
22 Head Start agency to fully exercise its legal and
23 fiduciary responsibilities;

1 “(C) failure of a Head Start agency to
2 meet the administrative requirements of section
3 644(b); or

4 “(D) failure of a Head Start agency to
5 meet the integration requirements of 642B.”;

6 (7) by inserting after paragraph (3), as so re-
7 designated, the following:

8 “(4) The term ‘eligible entities’ means an insti-
9 tution of higher education or other agency with ex-
10 pertise in delivering training in early childhood de-
11 velopment, family support, and other assistance de-
12 signed to improve the quality of early childhood edu-
13 cations programs.”;

14 (8) by inserting after paragraph (11), as so re-
15 designated, the following:

16 “(12) The term ‘homeless children’ has the
17 meaning given such term in subtitle B of title VII
18 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
19 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.).”;

20 (9) by inserting after paragraph (17), as so re-
21 designated, the following:

22 “(18) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—The
23 term ‘professional development’ includes activities
24 that—

1 “(A) assist teachers in meeting the profes-
2 sional requirements in section 648A(a)(1);

3 “(B) improve classroom management
4 skills;

5 “(C) are high quality, sustained, intensive,
6 and classroom-focused in order to have a posi-
7 tive and lasting impact on classroom instruction
8 and the teacher’s performance in the classroom;

9 “(D) are not 1-day or short-term work-
10 shops or conferences;

11 “(E) assist teachers and staff in increasing
12 their knowledge and skills in program adminis-
13 tration, program quality, and the provision of
14 services and instruction in a manner that im-
15 proves service delivery to eligible children and
16 families;

17 “(F) support the recruiting, hiring, and
18 training of teachers that meet the requirements
19 of section 648A(a)(2);

20 “(G) are part of a sustained effort to im-
21 prove overall program quality and outcomes for
22 eligible children and families;

23 “(H) advance teacher understanding of ef-
24 fective instructional strategies that are—

1 “(i) based on scientifically based re-
2 search; and

3 “(ii) strategies for improving school
4 readiness or substantially increasing the
5 knowledge and teaching skills of teachers;

6 “(I) are, where applicable, aligned with
7 and directly related to—

8 “(i) State academic content stand-
9 ards, student academic achievement stand-
10 ards, and assessments; and

11 “(ii) the curricula and programs tied
12 to the standards described in section
13 641(a)(1);

14 “(J) are developed with extensive partici-
15 pation of administrators and teachers from
16 Head Start programs;

17 “(K) are appropriate for the children being
18 served;

19 “(L) are designed to give teachers of non-
20 English language background children, and
21 other teachers and instructional staff, the
22 knowledge and skills to provide instruction and
23 appropriate language and support services to
24 those children;

1 “(M) as a whole, are regularly evaluated
 2 for their impact on increased staff effectiveness
 3 and improved ability of teachers to support
 4 learning and increase participating children’s
 5 school readiness, with the findings of the eval-
 6 uations used to improve the quality of profes-
 7 sional development;”.

8 “(N) provide instruction in methods of
 9 teaching children with special needs; and

10 “(O) include instruction in ways that Head
 11 Start personnel may work more effectively with
 12 parents.”, and

13 (10) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(22) The term ‘unresolved area of noncompli-
 15 ance’ means a failure to correct a noncompliance
 16 item within 90 days, or within such additional time
 17 (if any) authorized by the Secretary, after receiving
 18 from the Secretary notice of such noncompliance
 19 item.”.

20 **SEC. 4. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HEAD START PRO-**
 21 **GRAMS.**

22 Section 638 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9833)
 23 is amended by inserting “for a period of 5 years” after
 24 “provide financial assistance to such agency”.

1 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION.**

2 Section 639 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9834)
3 is amended to read as follows:

4 **“SEC. 639. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

5 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be ap-
6 propriated for carrying out the provisions of this sub-
7 chapter \$6,899,000,000 for the fiscal year 2006 and such
8 sums as may be necessary for the fiscal years 2007
9 through 2011.

10 “(b) SPECIFIC PROGRAMS.—From the amount ap-
11 propriated under subsection (a), the Secretary shall make
12 available not more than \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2006,
13 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2007
14 through 2011 to carry out such other research, dem-
15 onstration, and evaluation activities, including longitu-
16 dinal studies, under section 649, of which not more than
17 \$7,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2006 through 2011
18 to carry out impact studies under section 649(g).”.

19 **SEC. 6. ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS; LIMITATIONS ON ASSIST-**
20 **ANCE.**

21 (a) ALLOTMENTS.—Section 640(a) of the Head Start
22 Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(a)) is amended—

23 (1) in paragraph (2)—

24 (A) in subparagraph (A) by striking
25 “1998” and inserting “2005”;

1 (B) by amending subparagraph (B) to read
2 as follows:

3 “(B) payments, subject to paragraph (7) to
4 Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the
5 Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands of
6 the United States;”;

7 (C) by amending (C) to read as follows:

8 “(C) training and technical assistance activities
9 to foster program quality and management improve-
10 ment as described in section 648, in an amount for
11 each fiscal year which is equal to 2 percent of the
12 amount appropriated for such fiscal year, of which—

13 “(i) not less than 50 percent shall be made
14 available to local Head Start agencies to make
15 program improvements identified by such agen-
16 cies and comply with the standards described in
17 section 641A(a)(1), of which not less than 50
18 percent shall be used to comply with the stand-
19 ards described in section 641A(a)(1)(B) and for
20 the uses described in clauses (iii), (iv), and (vii)
21 of subsection (a)(3)(B);

22 “(ii) not less than 20 percent shall be
23 made available to support a State system of
24 early childhood education training and technical

1 assistance, including the State Early Learning
2 Council described in section 642B;

3 “(iii) not less than 30 percent shall be
4 made available to the Secretary to assist local
5 programs in meeting the standards described in
6 section 641A(a)(1) and shall be allocated to ad-
7 dress program weaknesses identified by moni-
8 toring activities conducted by the Secretary
9 under section 641A(c); and

10 “(iv) not less than \$3,000,000 of the
11 amount in clause (iii) appropriated for such fis-
12 cal year shall be made available to carry out ac-
13 tivities described in section 648(c)(4);” and

14 (D) by striking the last sentence.

15 (2) in paragraph (3)—

16 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

17 (i) in clause (i)(I) by striking “1999”
18 and all that follows down to the semicolon
19 and inserting “2006 through 2011”; and

20 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(iii) After the reservation of amounts under para-
23 graph (2) and the 60 percent amount referred to in sub-
24 paragraph (A) of this paragraph, a portion of the remain-
25 ing funds shall be made available for quality—

1 “(I) to expand services to underserved popu-
2 lations, such as children receiving services under the
3 Early Head Start and migrant and seasonal Head
4 Start programs; and

5 “(II) to increase funding to grantees with full
6 enrollment and whose aggregate amount of financial
7 assistance provides funding per child that is below
8 the national average.”;

9 (B) by amending subparagraph (B) to read
10 as follows:

11 “(B) Funds reserved under this paragraph (in this
12 paragraph referred to as ‘quality improvement funds’)
13 shall be used to accomplish any or all of the following
14 goals:

15 “(i) Ensuring that Head Start programs meet
16 or exceed standards pursuant to section 641A(a)(1).

17 “(ii) Ensuring that such programs have ade-
18 quate numbers of qualified staff, and that such staff
19 is furnished adequate training, including developing
20 skills to promote the development of language skills,
21 premathematic skills, and prereading in young chil-
22 dren and in working with children with non-English
23 language background, children referred by child wel-
24 fare services, and children with disabilities, when ap-
25 propriate.

1 “(iii) Developing and financing the salary scales
2 described under section 644(a) and section 653, in
3 order to ensure that salary levels and benefits are
4 adequate to attract and retain qualified staff for
5 such programs.

6 “(iv) Using salary increases—

7 “(I) to assist with the implementation of
8 quality programs and improve staff qualifica-
9 tions;

10 “(II) to ensure that staff can promote the
11 language skills and literacy growth of children
12 and can provide children with a variety of skills
13 that have been identified, through scientifically
14 based early reading research, as predictive of
15 later reading achievement; and

16 “(III) to encourage the staff to continually
17 improve their skills and expertise by informing
18 the staff of the availability of Federal and State
19 incentive and loan forgiveness programs for
20 professional development.

21 “(v) Improving community-wide strategic plan-
22 ning and needs assessments for such programs and
23 collaboration efforts for such programs, including
24 collaborations to increase program participation by
25 underserved populations of eligible children.

1 “(vi) Ensuring that the physical environments
2 of Head Start programs are conducive to providing
3 effective program services to children and families,
4 and are accessible to children with disabilities and
5 their parents.

6 “(vii) Ensuring that such programs have quali-
7 fied staff that can promote language skills and lit-
8 eracy growth of children and that can provide chil-
9 dren with a variety of skills that have been identi-
10 fied, through scientifically based reading research, as
11 predictive of later reading achievement.

12 “(viii) Providing assistance to complete postsec-
13 ondary coursework including scholarships or other fi-
14 nancial incentives, such as differential and merit
15 pay, to enable Head Start teachers to improve com-
16 petencies and the resulting child outcomes.

17 “(ix) Making such other improvements in the
18 quality of such programs as the Secretary may des-
19 ignate.

20 “(x) Promoting the regular attendance and sta-
21 bility of all Head Start children with particular at-
22 tention to highly mobile children, including children
23 from migrant and seasonal farmworker families (if
24 appropriate), homeless children, and children in fos-
25 ter care.”; and

1 (C) by amending subparagraph (C) to read
2 as follows:

3 “(C) Quality improvement funds shall be used to
4 carry out the activities in any or all of the following
5 clauses:

6 “(i)(I) Not less than one-half of the amount re-
7 served under this paragraph, to improve the com-
8 pensation (including benefits) of classroom teachers
9 and other staff of Head Start agencies providing in-
10 structional services and thereby enhancing recruit-
11 ment and retention of qualified staff, including re-
12 cruitment and retention pursuant to achieving the
13 requirements set forth in section 648A(a). The ex-
14 penditure of funds under this clause shall be subject
15 to section 653. Salary increases, in excess of cost-of-
16 living allowance, provided with such funds shall be
17 subject to the specific standards governing salaries
18 and salary increases established pursuant to section
19 644(a).

20 “(II) If a Head Start agency certifies to the
21 Secretary for such fiscal year that part of the funds
22 set aside under subclause (I) to improve wages can-
23 not be expended by such agency to improve wages
24 because of the operation of section 653, then such

1 agency may expend such part for any of the uses
2 specified in this subparagraph (other than wages).

3 “(III) From the remainder of the amount re-
4 served under this paragraph (after the Secretary
5 carries out subclause (I)), the Secretary may carry
6 out the activities described in clauses (ii) through
7 (vii).

8 “(ii) To train classroom teachers and other
9 staff to meet the education standards described in
10 section 641A(a)(1)(B), through activities—

11 “(I) to promote children’s language and
12 prereading growth, through techniques identi-
13 fied through scientifically based reading re-
14 search;

15 “(II) to promote the acquisition of the
16 English language for non-English background
17 children and families;

18 “(III) to foster children’s school readiness
19 skills through activities described in section
20 648A(a)(1); and

21 “(IV) to provide education and training
22 necessary to improve the qualifications of Head
23 Start staff, particularly assistance to enable
24 more instructors to be fully competent and to
25 meet the degree requirements under section

1 648A(a)(2)(A), and to support staff training,
2 child counseling, and other services necessary to
3 address the challenges of children participating
4 in Head Start programs, including children
5 from immigrant, refugee, and asylee families,
6 children from families in crisis, children who ex-
7 perience chronic violence in their communities,
8 and children who experience substance abuse in
9 their families.

10 “(iii) To employ additional Head Start staff, in-
11 cluding staff necessary to reduce the child-staff
12 ratio, lead instructors who meet the qualifications of
13 section 648A(a) and staff necessary to coordinate a
14 Head Start program with other services available to
15 children participating in such program and to their
16 families.

17 “(iv) To pay costs incurred by Head Start
18 agencies to purchase insurance (other than employee
19 benefits) and thereby maintain or expand Head
20 Start services.

21 “(v) To supplement amounts provided under
22 paragraph (2)(C) to provide training necessary to
23 improve the qualifications of the staff of the Head
24 Start agencies, and to support staff training, child
25 counseling, and other services necessary to address

1 the problems of children participating in Head Start
2 programs, including children from dysfunctional
3 families, children who experience chronic violence in
4 their communities, and children who experience sub-
5 stance abuse in their families.

6 “(vi) To conduct outreach to homeless families
7 in an effort to increase the program participation of
8 homeless children.

9 “(vii) Such other activities as the Secretary
10 may designate.

11 “(viii) To conduct outreach to migrant and sea-
12 sonal farm-working families and families with chil-
13 dren with a limited English proficiency.”;

14 (3) in paragraph (4) by striking “1998” in sub-
15 paragraph (A) and inserting “2005”;

16 (4) in paragraph (5) by amending subpara-
17 graphs (A), (B), and (C) to read as follows:

18 “(A) From amounts reserved and allotted pursuant
19 to paragraph (4) and the amounts reserved in Section
20 640(a)(2)(C)(ii), the Secretary shall award the grants de-
21 scribed in Section 642B(b).

22 “(B) From the reserved sums in paragraph (4) the
23 Secretary shall award a collaboration grant to any State
24 that submits a written request outlining why it is unable
25 to comply with Section 642B(b). Such grant shall be equal

1 to the amount the State received under this paragraph for
2 such activity for fiscal year 2005. Such grant shall be used
3 by the State to facilitate collaboration regarding activities
4 carried out in the State under this subchapter, and other
5 activities carried out in and by the State that are designed
6 to benefit low-income children and families and to encour-
7 age Head Start agencies to collaborate with entities in-
8 volved in State and local planning processes (including the
9 State lead agency administering the financial assistance
10 under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act
11 of 1990 and the entities that provide child care resource
12 and referral services in the State) in order to better meet
13 the needs of low-income children and their families.

14 “(C) In order to improve results for children, a State
15 that receives a grant under subparagraph (B) shall—

16 “(i) appoint an individual to serve as the State
17 Director of Collaboration between—

18 “(I) the appropriate regional office of the
19 Administration for Children and Families;

20 “(II) the State educational agency;

21 “(III) the State Department of Health and
22 Human Services;

23 “(IV) the State agency that oversees child
24 care;

1 “(V) the State agency that assists children
2 with developmental disabilities;

3 “(VI) the State Head Start Association;

4 “(VII) the State network of child care re-
5 source and referral agencies;

6 “(VIII) local educational agencies;

7 “(IX) community-based and faith-based or-
8 ganizations;

9 “(X) State representatives of migrant and
10 seasonal Head Start programs;

11 “(XI) State representatives of Indian Head
12 Start programs;

13 “(XII) State and local providers of early
14 childhood education and child care; and

15 “(XIII) other entities carrying out pro-
16 grams serving low-income children and families
17 in the State;

18 “(ii) ensure that the State Director of Collabo-
19 ration holds a position with sufficient authority and
20 access to ensure that the collaboration described in
21 subparagraph (B) is effective and involves a range
22 of State agencies;

23 “(iii) involve the entities described in section
24 clause (i) to develop a strategic plan for the coordi-
25 nated outreach to identify eligible children and im-

1 plementation strategies based on a needs assessment
2 conducted by the Office of the State Director of Col-
3 laboration which shall include an assessment of the
4 availability of high quality prekindergarten services
5 for low-income children in the State. Such assess-
6 ment shall be completed within one year after the
7 date of enactment of the ‘School Readiness Act of
8 2005’ and be updated on an annual basis and shall
9 be made available to the general public within the
10 State;

11 “(iv) ensure that the collaboration described in
12 subparagraph (B) involves coordination of Head
13 Start services with health care, welfare, child care,
14 child protective services, education, and community
15 service activities, family literacy services, activities
16 relating to children with disabilities (including co-
17 ordination of services with those State officials who
18 are responsible for administering part C and section
19 619 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education
20 Act), and services for homeless children (including
21 coordination of services with the Office of Coordi-
22 nator for Education of Homeless Children and
23 Youth designated under section 722 (g)(1)(J)(ii) of
24 the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of
25 2001;

1 “(v) consult with the chief State school officer,
2 local educational agencies, and representatives of
3 local Head Start agencies and providers of early
4 childhood education and care in unified planning re-
5 garding early care and education services at both the
6 State and local levels, including collaborative efforts
7 to develop school readiness standards; and

8 “(vi) consult with the chief State school officer,
9 local educational agencies, State child care adminis-
10 trators, State human services administrators, rep-
11 resentatives of local resource and referral agencies,
12 local early childhood councils, providers of early
13 childhood education and care and other relevant
14 State and local agencies, and representatives of the
15 State Head Start Associations to plan for the provi-
16 sion of full-working-day, full calendar year early care
17 and education services for children.”;

18 (C) in subparagraph (D)(i) by inserting
19 “and providers of services supporting early
20 childhood education and child care” after “As-
21 sociations”; and

22 (D) by amending paragraph (6)(A) to read
23 as follows:

24 “(A) From amounts reserved and allotted pursuant
25 to paragraphs (2) and (4), the Secretary shall use, for

1 grants for programs described in section 645A(a) of this
2 subchapter, a portion of the combined total of such
3 amounts equal to at least 10 percent for each of the fiscal
4 years 2006 through 2011, of the amount appropriated
5 pursuant to section 639(a), except as provided in subpara-
6 graph (B).”.

7 (b) SERVICE DELIVERY MODELS.—Section 640(f) of
8 the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(f)) is amended by
9 inserting before the period at the end the following: “, in-
10 cluding models that leverage the existing capacity and ca-
11 pabilities of the delivery system of early childhood edu-
12 cation and child care”;

13 (c) MAINTENANCE OF SERVICE LEVELS.—Section
14 640(g)(2) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(g)(2))
15 is amended—

16 (1) by striking “For purposes of expanding
17 Head Start programs, in” and inserting “in”;

18 (2) by amending subparagraph (C) to read as
19 follows:

20 “(C) the extent to which the applicant has un-
21 dertaken community-wide strategic planning and
22 needs assessments involving other community orga-
23 nizations and Federal, State, and local public agen-
24 cies serving children and families (including organi-
25 zations and agencies providing family support serv-

1 ices and protective services to children and families
 2 and organizations serving families in whose homes
 3 English is not the language customarily spoken),
 4 and individuals, organizations, and public entities
 5 serving children with disabilities and homeless chil-
 6 dren including the local educational agency liaison
 7 designated under section 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the
 8 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
 9 U.S.C. 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii));”;

10 (3) in subparagraph (D) by striking “other
 11 local” and inserting “the State and local”;

12 (4) in subparagraph (E) by inserting “would
 13 like to participate but” after “community who”;

14 (5) in subparagraph (G)—

15 (A) by inserting “leverage the existing de-
 16 livery systems of such services and” after
 17 “manner that will”; and

18 (B) by striking “and” at the end;

19 (6) in subparagraph (H)—

20 (A) by inserting “, including the local edu-
 21 cational agency liaison designated under section
 22 722(g)(1)(J)(ii) of the McKinney-Vento Home-
 23 less Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
 24 11432(g)(1)(J)(ii)),” after “community in-
 25 volved”;

1 (B) by striking “plans to coordinate” and
 2 inserting “successfully coordinated its activi-
 3 ties”; and

4 (C) by striking the period at the end and
 5 inserting “; and”; and

6 (7) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(I) the amount of funds used by such agency
 8 to pay administrative expenses and the amount of
 9 available funds received by such agency under this
 10 section to serve each enrolled child.”.

11 (d) VEHICLE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.—Section
 12 640(i) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835(i)) is
 13 amended—

14 (1) by striking “(i) The” and inserting the fol-
 15 lowing:

16 “(i) TRANSPORTATION SAFETY.—

17 “(1) REGULATIONS.—The”; and

18 (2) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(2) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may
 21 waive for a period of up to one year the require-
 22 ments of regulations promulgated under para-
 23 graph (1) for one or more vehicles used by the
 24 agency or its designee in transporting children

1 enrolled in a Head Start program or an Early
2 Head Start program if—

3 “(i) such requirements pertain to
4 child restraint systems and bus monitors;

5 “(ii) the agency demonstrates that
6 compliance with such requirements will re-
7 sult in a significant disruption to the Head
8 Start or Early Head Start program; and

9 “(iii) is in the best interest of the
10 child.

11 “(B) RENEWAL.—The Secretary may
12 renew a waiver under subparagraph (A)”.

13 (e) MIGRANT AND SEASONAL HEAD START PRO-
14 GRAMS.—Section 640(l) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
15 9835(l)) is amended—

16 (1) in paragraph (3) by adding at the end the
17 following:

18 “In carrying out this subchapter, the Secretary shall con-
19 tinue the administrative arrangement at the National level
20 for meeting the needs of Indian children and children of
21 migrant and seasonal farmworkers to ensure that appro-
22 priate funding is provided to meet such needs.”; and

23 (2) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(4)(A) For the purposes of paragraph (3), the Sec-
25 retary shall conduct an annual consultation in each af-

1 fected Head Start region, with tribal governments oper-
2 ating Head Start programs and Early Head Start pro-
3 grams.

4 “(B) The consultations shall be for the purpose of
5 better meeting the needs of American Indian and Alaska
6 Native children and families pertinent to subsections (a),
7 (b), and (c) of section 641, taking into consideration fund-
8 ing allocations, distribution formulas, and other issues af-
9 fecting the delivery of Head Start services within tribal
10 communities.

11 “(C) The Secretary shall publish a notification of the
12 consultations in the Federal Register prior to conducting
13 the consultations.

14 “(D) A detailed report of each consultation shall be
15 prepared and made available, on a timely basis, to all trib-
16 al governments receiving funds under this subchapter.”.

17 (f) ENROLLMENT OF HOMELESS CHILDREN.—Sec-
18 tion 640 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9835) is
19 amended by adding at the end the following:

20 “(m) ENROLLMENT OF HOMELESS CHILDREN.—The
21 Secretary shall by regulation prescribe policies and proce-
22 dures to remove barriers to the enrollment and participa-
23 tion of homeless children in Head Start programs. Such
24 regulations shall require Head Start agencies—

1 “(1) to implement policies and procedures to
2 ensure that homeless children are identified and
3 prioritized for enrollment;

4 “(2) to allow homeless families to apply to, en-
5 roll in and attend Head Start programs while re-
6 quired documents, such as proof of residency, immu-
7 nization and other medical records, birth certificates
8 and other documents, are obtained within a reason-
9 able time frame; and

10 “(3) coordinate individual Head Start centers
11 and programs with efforts to implement Subtitle
12 VII–B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance
13 Act.

14 “(n) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this sub-
15 chapter shall be construed to require a State to establish
16 a program of early education for children in the State,
17 to require any child to participate in a program of early
18 education, to attend school, or to participate in any initial
19 screening prior to participation in such program, except
20 as provided under section 612(a)(3), (consistent with sec-
21 tion 614(a)(1)(C)), of the Individuals with Disabilities
22 Education Act.

23 “(o) MATERIALS.—All curricula and instructional
24 materials funded under this subchapter shall be scientif-
25 ically based and age appropriate. Parents shall have the

1 ability to inspect, upon request, any curricula or instruc-
 2 tional materials.”.

3 **SEC. 7. DESIGNATION OF AGENCIES.**

4 (a) **AUTHORITY TO DESIGNATE.**— Section 641(a) of
 5 the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9836(a)) is amended to
 6 read as follows:

7 “(a) **AUTHORITY TO DESIGNATE.**—

8 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary is authorized
 9 to designate as a Head Start agency any local public
 10 or private nonprofit or for-profit agency within a
 11 State, including a community-based or faith-based
 12 organization that—

13 “(A) has power and authority to carry out
 14 the purpose of this subchapter and perform the
 15 functions set forth in section 642 within a
 16 State; and

17 “(B) is determined to be capable of plan-
 18 ning, conducting, administering, and evaluating,
 19 either directly or by other arrangements, a
 20 Head Start program.

21 “(2) **DESIGNATION REQUIREMENTS.**—In order
 22 to be designated as a Head Start agency and to re-
 23 ceive a financial assistance under this subchapter, an
 24 entity described in paragraph (1) shall establish
 25 measurable objectives for improving the school readi-

ness of children participating in a program under this subchapter, including measurable objectives for meeting the performance standards described in section 641A and for—

“(A) educational instruction in prereading, premathematical, and language skills;

“(B) the provision of health, educational, nutritional, social, and other services related to school readiness standards; and

“(C) school readiness standards that are aligned with State-developed K–12 academic content standards.

“(3) ELIGIBILITY FOR SUBSEQUENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—In order to receive a financial assistance under this subchapter subsequent to the initial financial assistance provided following the effective date of this subsection, an entity described in paragraph (1) shall demonstrate that the entity has met the measurable objectives described in paragraph (2);

“(4) MEASURING PROGRESS.—Progress in meeting such measurable objectives shall not be measured primarily or solely by the results of assessments.”

1 (b) PRIORITY IN DESIGNATION.—Section 641(c) of
2 the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9836(c)) is amended to
3 read as follows:

4 “(c) CONSULTATION.—In the administration of this
5 section, the Secretary shall, in consultation with the chief
6 executive officer of the State involved, give priority in the
7 designation of Head Start agencies to Head Start agencies
8 that—

9 “(1) are receiving assistance under this sub-
10 chapter on the effective date of this subsection;

11 “(2) meet or exceeds program and financial
12 management requirements, standards described in
13 section 641A(a)(1);

14 “(3) meet or exceed the results-based perform-
15 ance measures developed by the Secretary under sec-
16 tion 641A(b)(4);

17 “(4) have no unresolved areas of noncompli-
18 ance;

19 “(5) have not been deemed deficient;

20 “(6) employ qualified staff (including, in center-
21 based programs, a teaching staff of whom at least
22 50 percent have a associate, baccalaureate, or ad-
23 vanced degree in early child education or a related
24 field);

1 “(7) were not deemed by the Secretary as
2 chronically under-enrolled at any time during the
3 term for which financial assistance was provided;

4 “(8) utilize research-based curricula that are
5 aligned with State-developed K–12 academic content
6 standards;

7 “(9) demonstrate active partnerships with local
8 educational agencies serving the same communities
9 to facilitate smooth transitions to kindergarten;

10 “(10) actively implement a memorandum of un-
11 derstanding with any local educational agency within
12 the service area and additional partnership agree-
13 ments with organizations that enhance the delivery
14 of services to children;

15 “(11) demonstrate success in improving child
16 outcomes across all domains of development, includ-
17 ing measurable progress in language skills,
18 prereading knowledge, and premathematics knowl-
19 edge;

20 “(12) maintain classroom environments con-
21 structive to early learning and future school success;

22 “(13) demonstrate strong parental involvement
23 and activities to develop parent skills to support
24 their children’s educational development and ability

1 to participate effectively in decisions relating to the
2 education of their children;

3 “(14) are overseen by a local governance board
4 that provides direction and actively oversees all pro-
5 gram activities;

6 “(15) document strong fiscal controls, includ-
7 ing—

8 “(A) the employment of well-qualified fis-
9 cal staff with a history of successful manage-
10 ment of a public or private organization;

11 “(B) having no reportable noncompliance
12 with applicable laws and regulations on all an-
13 nual financial audits performed since the most
14 recent designation;

15 “(C) meeting or exceeding annual require-
16 ments for financial support under section
17 640(b); and

18 “(D) maintaining total administrative costs
19 at or below 15 percent of total program costs;

20 “(16) are licensed to operate in accordance with
21 all applicable State child care regulations;

22 “(17) conduct outreach activities to ensure that
23 services are provided to the most at-risk families in
24 the community;

1 “(18) have developed strong community part-
 2 nerships with public and private organizations, such
 3 as businesses, health, and social service providers;
 4 and

5 “(19) provide opportunities for ongoing profes-
 6 sional development.”.

7 (c) DESIGNATION WHEN NO ENTITY HAS PRI-
 8 ORITY.—Section 641(d) of the Head Start Act (43 U.S.C.
 9 9836(d)) is amended to read as follows:

10 “(d) DESIGNATION WHEN NO ENTITY HAS PRI-
 11 ORITY.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—If no entity in a commu-
 13 nity is entitled to the priority specified in subsection
 14 (c), the Secretary shall, after conducting an open
 15 competition, designate a Head Start agency from
 16 among qualified applicants in such community.”.

17 “(2) CONSIDERATIONS IN DESIGNATION.—In
 18 selecting from among qualified applicants for des-
 19 ignation as a Head Start agency, the Secretary shall
 20 consider the effectiveness of each such applicant to
 21 provide Head Start services, based on—

22 “(A) any past performance of such appli-
 23 cant in providing services comparable to Head
 24 Start services, including how effectively such
 25 applicant provided such comparable services;

1 “(B) the plan of such applicant to provide
2 comprehensive health, educational, nutritional,
3 social, and other services needed to prepare
4 children to succeed in school;

5 “(C) the capacity of such applicant to
6 serve eligible children with scientifically based
7 programs that promote the school readiness of
8 children participating in the program;

9 “(D) the plan of such applicant to meet
10 standards set forth in section 641A(a)(1), with
11 particular attention to the standards set forth
12 in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of such section;

13 “(E) the proposed budget and plan of such
14 applicant to maintain strong fiscal controls and
15 cost effective fiscal management;

16 “(F) the plan of such applicant to coordi-
17 nate the Head Start program the applicant pro-
18 poses to carry out with other educational pro-
19 grams for young children, including—

20 “(i) the Early Reading First and
21 Even Start programs under subparts 2
22 and 3 of part B of title I of the Elemen-
23 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
24 (20 U.S.C. 6371 et seq., 6381 et seq.);

1 “(ii) programs under section 619 and
2 part C of the Individuals with Disabilities
3 Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et
4 seq.);

5 “(iii) State prekindergarten programs;

6 “(iv) child care programs;

7 “(v) the educational programs that
8 the children participating in the Head
9 Start program involved will enter at the
10 age of compulsory school attendance; and

11 “(vi) reading readiness programs such
12 as those conducted by public and school li-
13 braries;

14 “(G) the plan of such applicant to coordi-
15 nate the Head Start program that the applicant
16 proposes to carry out, with public and private
17 entities that are willing to commit resources to
18 assist the Head Start program in meeting its
19 program needs;

20 “(H) the plan of such applicant—

21 “(i) to seek the involvement of parents
22 of children participating in the proposed
23 Head Start program, in activities (at home
24 and, if practicable, at the location of the
25 Head Start program) designed to help

1 such parents become full partners in the
2 education of their children;

3 “(ii) to afford such parents the oppor-
4 tunity to participate in the development
5 and overall conduct of the program at the
6 local level;

7 “(iii) to offer (directly or through re-
8 ferral to local entities, such as entities car-
9 rying out Even Start programs under sub-
10 part 3 of part B of title I of the Elemen-
11 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
12 (20 U.S.C. 6381 et seq.), public and school
13 libraries, and entities carrying out family
14 support programs) to such parents—

15 “(I) family literacy services; and

16 “(II) parenting skills training;

17 “(iv) to offer to parents of partici-
18 pating children, substance abuse coun-
19 seling (either directly or through referral
20 to local entities), including information on
21 the effect of drug exposure on infants and
22 fetal alcohol syndrome;

23 “(v) at the option of such applicant,
24 to offer (directly or through referral to
25 local entities) to such parents—

1 “(I) training in basic child devel-
2 opment (including cognitive develop-
3 ment);

4 “(II) assistance in developing lit-
5 eracy and communication skills;

6 “(III) opportunities to share ex-
7 periences with other parents (includ-
8 ing parent mentor relationships);

9 “(IV) regular in-home visitation;
10 or

11 “(V) any other activity designed
12 to help such parents become full part-
13 ners in the education of their children;

14 “(vi) to provide, with respect to each
15 participating family, a family needs assess-
16 ment that includes consultation with such
17 parents about the benefits of parent in-
18 volvement and about the activities de-
19 scribed in subparagraphs (C), (D), and (E)
20 in which such parents may choose to be-
21 come involved (taking into consideration
22 their specific family needs, work schedules,
23 and other responsibilities); and

24 “(vii) to extend outreach to fathers, in
25 appropriate cases, in order to strengthen

1 the role of fathers in families, in the edu-
2 cation of their young children, and in the
3 Head Start program, by working directly
4 with fathers and father figures through ac-
5 tivities such as—

6 “(I) in appropriate cases, includ-
7 ing fathers in home visits and pro-
8 viding opportunities for direct father-
9 child interactions; and

10 “(II) targeting increased male
11 participation in the conduct of the
12 program;

13 “(I) the ability of such applicant to carry
14 out the plans described in paragraphs (2), (4),
15 and (5);

16 “(J) the plan of such applicant to meet the
17 needs of non-English background children and
18 their families, including procedures to identify
19 such children, plans to provide trained per-
20 sonnel, and plans to provide services to assist
21 the children in making progress toward the ac-
22 quisition of the English language;

23 “(K) the plan of such applicant to meet
24 the needs of children with disabilities;

1 “(L) the plan of such applicant who choos-
2 es to assist younger siblings of children who will
3 participate in the Head Start program, to ob-
4 tain health services from other sources;

5 “(M) the plan of such applicant to collabo-
6 rate with other entities carrying out early child-
7 hood education and child care programs in the
8 community;

9 “(N) the plan of such applicant to meet
10 the needs of homeless children, including trans-
11 portation needs, and children in foster care;

12 “(O) the plan of such applicant to main-
13 tain a qualified staff, including a teaching staff
14 qualified to implement research-based edu-
15 cational curricula aligned with State-developed
16 K–12 academic content standards;

17 “(P) the plan of such applicant to enter
18 into memoranda of understanding with local
19 educational agencies, child care providers, and
20 other entities within the service area; and

21 “(Q) other factors related to the require-
22 ments of this subchapter.”.

1 **SEC. 8. QUALITY STANDARDS; MONITORING OF HEAD**
2 **START AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) **QUALITY STANDARDS.**—Section 641A(a) of the
4 Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9836a(a)) is amended—

5 (1) by amending paragraph (1)(B)—

6 (A) in clause (i)—

7 (i) by inserting “based on sound sci-
8 entific evidence” after “standards”; and

9 (ii) by inserting “and sustained aca-
10 demic gains” after “readiness”; and

11 (B) by amending clause (ii) to read as fol-
12 lows:

13 “(ii) additional scientifically-based edu-
14 cation standards to ensure that the children
15 participating in the program, at a minimum de-
16 velop and demonstrate—

17 “(I) language knowledge and skills,
18 including language and listening com-
19 prehension;

20 “(II) prereading knowledge and skills
21 that prepare children for early literacy in
22 schools, including phonological awareness,
23 print awareness, and alphabetic knowledge;

24 “(III) premathematics knowledge and
25 skills, including aspects of classification,

1 seriation, number, spatial relations, and
2 time;

3 “(IV) cognitive abilities related to aca-
4 demic achievement and child development;

5 “(V) social and emotional development
6 related to constructive child development,
7 early learning, and school success and sus-
8 tained academic gains; and

9 “(VI) in the case of limited-English
10 proficient children, progress toward acqui-
11 sition of the English language while mak-
12 ing meaningful progress in attaining the
13 knowledge, skills, abilities, and develop-
14 ment described in subclauses (I) through
15 (IV);”;

16 (2) in paragraph (2)—

17 (A) by amending subparagraph (B) to read
18 as follows:

19 “(B) take into consideration—

20 “(i) past experience with use of the
21 standards in effect under this subchapter
22 on October 27, 1998;

23 “(ii) changes over the period since Oc-
24 tober 27, 1998, in the circumstances and

1 problems typically facing children and fam-
2 ilies served by Head Start agencies;

3 “(iii) developments concerning re-
4 search based practices with respect to early
5 childhood education and development, chil-
6 dren with disabilities, family services, pro-
7 gram administration, and financial man-
8 agement;

9 “(iv) projected needs of an expanding
10 Head Start program;

11 “(v) guidelines and standards cur-
12 rently in effect or under consideration that
13 promote child health services, and pro-
14 jected needs of expanding Head Start pro-
15 grams;

16 “(vi) changes in the population of
17 children who are eligible to participate in
18 Head Start programs, including the lan-
19 guage background and family structure of
20 such children;

21 “(vii) the need for, and state-of-the-
22 art developments relating to, local policies
23 and activities designed to ensure that chil-
24 dren participating in Head Start programs

1 make a successful transition to schools
2 that the children will be attending; and

3 “(viii) the unique challenges faced by
4 individual programs, including those that
5 are seasonal or short term, and those that
6 serve rural populations; and”; and

7 (B) in subparagraph (C)(ii) by striking
8 “the date” and all that follows through “Act
9 of”, and inserting “October 27, 1998”; and
10 (3) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(4) EVALUATIONS AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS
12 FOR DELEGATE AGENCIES.—

13 “(A) PROCEDURES.—The Head Start
14 agency shall establish procedures relating to its
15 delegate agencies, including—

16 “(i) procedures for evaluating delegate
17 agencies;

18 “(ii) procedures for defunding dele-
19 gate agencies; and

20 “(iii) procedures for appealing a
21 defunding decision relating to a delegate
22 agency.

23 “(B) EVALUATIONS.—Each Head Start
24 agency—

1 “(i) shall evaluate its delegate agen-
2 cies using the procedures established pur-
3 suant to this section, including subpara-
4 graph (A); and

5 “(ii) shall inform the delegate agen-
6 cies of the deficiencies identified through
7 the evaluation that shall be corrected.

8 “(C) REMEDIES TO ENSURE CORRECTIVE
9 ACTIONS.—In the event that the Head Start
10 agency identifies a deficiency for a delegate
11 agency through the evaluation, the Head Start
12 agency may—

13 “(i) initiate procedures to terminate
14 the designation of the agency unless the
15 agency corrects the deficiency;

16 “(ii) conduct monthly monitoring vis-
17 its to such delegate agency until all defi-
18 ciencies are corrected or the Head Start
19 agency decides to defund such delegate
20 agency; and

21 “(iii) release funds to such delegate
22 agency only as reimbursements until all de-
23 ficiencies are corrected or the Head Start
24 agency decides to defund such delegate
25 agency.

1 “(D) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing
2 in this paragraph shall be construed to impact
3 or obviate the responsibilities of the Secretary
4 with respect to Head Start agencies or delegate
5 agencies receiving funding under this sub-
6 chapter.”.

7 (b) RESULTS-BASED PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—
8 Section 641A(b) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
9 9836a(b)) is amended—

10 (1) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-
11 lows:

12 “(2) CHARACTERISTICS OF MEASURES.—The
13 performance measures developed under this sub-
14 section shall—

15 “(A) be used to assess the impact of the
16 various services provided by Head Start pro-
17 grams and, to the extent the Secretary finds
18 appropriate, administrative and financial man-
19 agement practices of such programs;

20 “(B) be adaptable for use in self-assess-
21 ment, peer review, and program evaluation of
22 individual Head Start agencies and programs;

23 “(C) be developed for other program pur-
24 poses as determined by the Secretary;

1 “(D) be appropriate for the population
2 served; and

3 “(E) be reviewed no less than every 4
4 years, based on advances in the science of early
5 childhood development.

6 The performance measures shall include the per-
7 formance standards described in subsection
8 (a)(1)(A) and (B).”; and

9 (2) by amending subsection (b)(4) to read as
10 follows:

11 “(4) EDUCATIONAL MEASURES.—Results based
12 measures shall be designed for the purpose of pro-
13 moting the competencies of children participating in
14 Head Start programs specified in subsection
15 (a)(1)(B)(ii), with an emphasis on measuring those
16 competencies that have a strong scientifically-based
17 predictability of a child’s school readiness and later
18 performance in school.”.

19 (c) MONITORING OF LOCAL AGENCIES AND PRO-
20 GRAMS.—Section 641A(c) of the Head Start Act (42
21 U.S.C. 9836a(c)) is amended—

22 (1) in paragraph (1)—

23 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph

24 (A) by inserting “develop and utilize a risk-
25 based assessment system to” after “shall”;

1 (B) by amending subparagraph (C) to read
2 as follows:

3 “(C) Unannounced site inspections of
4 Head Start centers, as appropriate.”;

5 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as
6 subparagraph (E); and

7 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (C)
8 the following:

9 “(D) Followup reviews including a review
10 of programs with citations that include 1 or
11 more findings of deficiencies not later than 6
12 months after the date of such citation.”; and

13 (2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-
14 lows:

15 “(2) CONDUCT OF REVIEWS.—The Secretary
16 shall ensure that reviews described in subparagraphs
17 (A) through (C) of paragraph (1)—

18 “(A) that incorporate a monitoring visit,
19 do so without prior notice of the visit to the
20 local agency or program;

21 “(B) are conducted by review teams com-
22 posed of individuals who are knowledgeable
23 about the program areas they are reviewing
24 and, to the maximum extent practicable, the di-
25 verse (including linguistic and cultural) needs of

1 eligible children (including children with disabil-
2 ities) and limited-English proficient children
3 and their families;

4 “(C) include as part of the reviews of the
5 programs, a review and assessment of program
6 effectiveness, including strengths and areas for
7 improvement, as measured in accordance with
8 the results-based performance measures devel-
9 oped by the Secretary pursuant to subsection
10 (b) and with the standards established pursuant
11 to subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection
12 (a)(1);

13 “(D) seek information from the commu-
14 nities and the States involved about the per-
15 formance of the programs and the efforts of the
16 Head Start agencies to collaborate with other
17 entities carrying out early childhood education
18 and child care programs in the community;

19 “(E) seek information from the commu-
20 nities where Head Start programs exist about
21 innovative or effective collaborative efforts, bar-
22 riers to collaboration, and the efforts of the
23 Head Start agencies and programs to collabo-
24 rate with the entities carrying out early child-

1 hood education and child care programs in the
2 community;

3 “(F) include as part of the reviews of the
4 programs, a review and assessment of whether
5 a program is in conformity with the income eli-
6 gibility requirements, as defined in section 645
7 and regulations promulgated thereunder;

8 “(G) include as part of the reviews of the
9 programs, a review and assessment of whether
10 programs have adequately addressed the popu-
11 lation and community needs (including popu-
12 lations of children with a limited English pro-
13 ficiency and children of migrant and seasonal
14 farm-working families);

15 “(H) include as part of the review the ex-
16 tent to which the program addresses the com-
17 munity needs and strategic plan identified in
18 section 640(g)(2)(C); and

19 “(I) are conducted in a manner that evalu-
20 ates program performance, quality, and overall
21 operations with consistency and objectivity, and
22 based on a transparent and reliable system of
23 review.”.

1 (d) CORRECTIVE ACTION; TERMINATION.—Section
2 641A(d) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9836a(d)) is
3 amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (1) by amending the matter
5 preceding subparagraph (A) to read as follows:

6 “(1) DETERMINATION.—If the Secretary deter-
7 mines, on the basis of a review pursuant to sub-
8 section (c), that a Head Start agency designated
9 pursuant to section 641 fails to meet the standards
10 described in subsection (a) or results-based perform-
11 ance measures developed by the Secretary under
12 subsection (b), or fails to adequately address the
13 community needs and strategic plan identified in
14 640(g)(2)(C), the Secretary shall—”;

15 (2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-
16 lows:

17 “(2) QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN.—

18 “(A) AGENCY AND PROGRAM RESPONSIBIL-
19 ITIES.—In order to retain a designation as a
20 Head Start agency under this subchapter, or in
21 the case of a Head Start Program, in order to
22 continue to receive funds from such agency, a
23 Head Start agency, or Head Start program
24 that is the subject of a determination described
25 in paragraph (1) (other than an agency or pro-

1 gram required to correct a deficiency imme-
2 diately or during a 90-day period under clause
3 (i) or (ii) of paragraph (1)(B)) shall—

4 “(i) develop in a timely manner, a
5 quality improvement plan which shall be
6 subject to the approval of the Secretary, or
7 in the case of a program, the sponsoring
8 agency, and which shall specify—

9 “(I) the deficiencies to be cor-
10 rected;

11 “(II) the actions to be taken to
12 correct such deficiencies; and

13 “(III) the timetable for accom-
14 plishment of the corrective actions
15 specified; and

16 “(ii) eliminate each deficiency identi-
17 fied, not later than the date for elimination
18 of such deficiency specified in such plan
19 (which shall not be later than 1 year after
20 the date the agency or program received
21 notice of the determination and of the spe-
22 cific deficiency to be corrected).

23 “(B) SECRETARIAL RESPONSIBILITY.—Not
24 later than 30 days after receiving from a Head
25 Start agency a proposed quality improvement

1 plan pursuant to subparagraph (A), the Sec-
2 retary shall either approve such proposed plan
3 or specify the reasons why the proposed plan
4 cannot be approved.

5 “(C) AGENCY RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRO-
6 GRAM IMPROVEMENT.—Not later than 30 days
7 after receiving from a Head Start program, a
8 proposed quality improvement plan pursuant to
9 subparagraph (A), the sponsoring agency shall
10 either approve such proposed plan or specify
11 the reasons why the proposed plan cannot be
12 approved.”;

13 (3) in paragraph (3) by inserting “and pro-
14 grams” after “agencies”;

15 (4) by amending subsection (e) to read as fol-
16 lows:

17 “(e) SUMMARIES OF MONITORING OUTCOMES.—Not
18 later than 120 days after the end of each fiscal year, the
19 Secretary shall publish a summary report on the findings
20 of reviews conducted under subsection (c) and on the out-
21 comes of quality improvement plans implemented under
22 subsection (d), during such fiscal year. Such information
23 shall be made available to all parents with children receiv-
24 ing assistance under this subchapter in a understandable
25 and uniform format, and to the extent practicable, pro-

1 vided in a language that the parents can understand, and
 2 in addition, make the information widely available through
 3 public means such as distribution through public agencies,
 4 and at a minimum posting such information on the Inter-
 5 net immediately upon publication.”; and

6 (5) by adding at the end the following:

7 “(f) REDUCTION OF GRANTS AND REDISTRIBUTION
 8 OF FUNDS IN CASES OF UNDER-ENROLLMENT.—

9 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

10 “(A) ACTUAL ENROLLMENT.—The term
 11 ‘actual enrollment’ means, with respect to the
 12 program of a Head Start agency, the actual
 13 number of children enrolled in such program
 14 and reported by the agency (as required in
 15 paragraph (2)) in a given month.

16 “(B) BASE GRANT.—The term ‘base grant’
 17 means, with respect to a Head Start agency for
 18 a fiscal year, that portion of the grant de-
 19 rived—

20 “(i) from amounts reserved for use in
 21 accordance with section 640(a)(2)(A), for a
 22 Head Start agency administering an In-
 23 dian Head Start program or migrant and
 24 seasonal Head Start program;

1 “(ii) from amounts reserved for pay-
2 ments under section 640(a)(2)(B); or

3 “(iii) from amounts available under
4 section 640(a)(2)(D) or allotted among
5 States under section 640(a)(4).

6 “(C) FUNDED ENROLLMENT.—The term
7 ‘funded enrollment’ means, with respect to the
8 program of a Head Start agency in a fiscal
9 year, the number of children that the agency is
10 funded to serve through a grant for the pro-
11 gram during such fiscal year, as indicated in
12 the grant agreement.

13 “(2) ENROLLMENT REPORTING REQUIREMENT
14 FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.—Each entity carrying
15 out a Head Start program shall report on a monthly
16 basis to the Secretary and the relevant Head Start
17 agency—

18 “(A) the actual enrollment in such pro-
19 gram; and

20 “(B) if such actual enrollment is less than
21 the funded enrollment, any apparent reason for
22 such enrollment shortfall.

23 “(3) SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND PLAN.—The
24 Secretary shall—

1 “(A) on a semiannual basis, determine
2 which Head Start agencies are operating with
3 an actual enrollment that is less than the fund-
4 ed enrollment based on not less than 4 consecu-
5 tive months of data;

6 “(B) for each such Head Start agency op-
7 erating a program with an actual enrollment
8 that is less than 98 percent of its funded enroll-
9 ment, as determined under subparagraph (A),
10 develop, in collaboration with such agency, a
11 plan and timetable for reducing or eliminating
12 under-enrollment taking into consideration—

13 “(i) the quality and extent of the out-
14 reach, recruitment, and community needs
15 assessment conducted by such agency;

16 “(ii) changing demographics, mobility
17 of populations, and the identification of
18 new underserved low-income populations;

19 “(iii) facilities-related issues that may
20 impact enrollment;

21 “(iv) the ability to provide full-day
22 programs, where needed, through Head
23 Start funds or through collaboration with
24 entities carrying out other preschool or

1 child care programs, or programs with
2 other funding sources (where available);

3 “(v) the availability and use by fami-
4 lies of other preschool and child care op-
5 tions (including parental care) in the local
6 catchment area; and

7 “(vi) agency management procedures
8 that may impact enrollment; and

9 “(C) provide timely and ongoing technical
10 assistance to each agency described in subpara-
11 graph (B) for the purpose of implementing the
12 plan described in such subparagraph.

13 “(4) IMPLEMENTATION.—Upon receipt of the
14 technical assistance described in paragraph (3)(C), a
15 Head Start agency shall immediately implement the
16 plan described in paragraph (3)(B).

17 “(5) SECRETARIAL ACTION FOR CONTINUED
18 UNDER-ENROLLMENT.—If, 1 year after the date of
19 implementation of the plan described in paragraph
20 (3)(B), the Head Start agency continues to operate
21 a program at less than full enrollment, the Secretary
22 shall, where determined appropriate, continue to
23 provide technical assistance to such agency.

24 “(6) SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND ADJUSTMENT
25 FOR CHRONIC UNDER-ENROLLMENT.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If, after receiving
2 technical assistance and developing and imple-
3 menting a plan to the extent described in para-
4 graphs (3), (4), and (5) for 6 months, a Head
5 Start agency is still operating a program with
6 an actual enrollment that is less than 98 per-
7 cent of its funded enrollment, the Secretary
8 may—

9 “(i) designate such agency as chron-
10 ically under-enrolled; and

11 “(ii) recapture, withhold, or reduce
12 the base grant for the program by, a per-
13 centage equal to the percentage difference
14 between funded enrollment and actual en-
15 rollment for the program for the most re-
16 cent year in which the agency is deter-
17 mined to be under-enrolled under para-
18 graph (2)(B).

19 “(B) WAIVER OR LIMITATION OF REDUC-
20 TIONS.—If the Secretary, after the implementa-
21 tion of the plan described in paragraph (3)(B),
22 finds that—

23 “(i) the shortfall can reasonably be
24 expected to be temporary; or

1 “(ii) the number of slots allotted to
2 the agency is small enough that under-en-
3 rollment does not constitute a significant
4 shortfall,

5 the Secretary may, as appropriate, waive or re-
6 duce the percentage recapturing, withholding,
7 or reduction otherwise required by subpara-
8 graph (A).

9 “(C) PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS; EF-
10 FECTIVE DATE.—The actions taken by the Sec-
11 retary under this paragraph with respect to a
12 Head Start agency shall take effect 1 day after
13 the date on which—

14 “(i) the time allowed for appeal under
15 section 646(a) expires without an appeal
16 by the agency; or

17 “(ii) the action is upheld in an admin-
18 istrative hearing under section 646.

19 “(7) REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
21 use amounts recovered from a Head Start agen-
22 cy through recapturing, withholding, or reduc-
23 tion under paragraph (6) in a fiscal year—

24 “(i) in the case of a Head Start agen-
25 cy administering an Indian Head Start

1 program or a migrant and seasonal Head
 2 Start program, whose base grant is derived
 3 from amounts specified in paragraph
 4 (1)(C)(i), to redirect funds to 1 or more
 5 agencies that—

6 “(I) are administering Head
 7 Start programs serving the same spe-
 8 cial population; and

9 “(II) demonstrate that the agen-
 10 cies will use such redirected funds to
 11 increase enrollment in their Head
 12 Start programs in such fiscal year; or

13 “(ii) in the case of a Head Start agen-
 14 cy in a State, whose base grant is derived
 15 from amounts specified in clause (ii) or
 16 (iii) of paragraph (1)(C), to redirect funds
 17 to 1 or more agencies that—

18 “(I) are administering Head
 19 Start programs in the same State;
 20 and

21 “(II) make the demonstration de-
 22 scribed in clause (i)(II).

23 “(B) SPECIAL RULE.—If there is no agen-
 24 cy located in a State that meets the require-
 25 ments of subclauses (I) and (II) of subpara-

graph (A)(ii), the Secretary shall use amounts described in subparagraph (A) to redirect funds to Head Start agencies located in other States that make the demonstration described in subparagraph (A)(i)(II).

“(C) ADJUSTMENT TO FUNDED ENROLLMENT.—The Secretary shall adjust as necessary the requirements relating to funded enrollment indicated in the grant agreement of a Head Start agency receiving redistributed amounts under this paragraph.”.

SEC. 9. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF HEAD START AGENCIES.

(a) QUALIFICATIONS FOR DESIGNATION.—Section 642(b) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9837(b)) is amended to read as follows:

“(b) In order to be so designated, a Head Start agency shall do all of the following:—

“(1) Establish a program with standards set forth in section 641A(a)(1), with particular attention to the standards set forth in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of such section.

“(2) Demonstrate capacity to serve eligible children with scientifically-based curricula and other

1 interventions that help promote the school readiness
2 of children participating in the program.

3 “(3) Establish effective procedures by which
4 parents and area residents concerned will be enabled
5 to directly participate in decisions that influence the
6 character of programs affecting their interests.

7 “(4) Establish an independent board of direc-
8 tors selected from among eligible individuals who
9 shall serve on the board without compensation. An
10 individual who has a conflict of interest is ineligible
11 to serve as a member of the board. Members of the
12 board shall include parents of children participating
13 in the Head Start program and representatives of
14 the local community (including at least 1 member
15 with significant financial management or accounting
16 experience). Additional members shall be selected for
17 their expertise in education, business administration,
18 community affairs, government, legal affairs, and
19 such other areas of expertise as may contribute to
20 effective governance of the Head Start agency. All
21 members of the board shall receive training in the
22 management responsibilities and obligations, ethics,
23 and financial literacy and management, and shall
24 adopt practices that assure active, independent and
25 informed governance of the Head Start agency, in-

1 including independent oversight of the financial and
2 management practices of such agency. The board
3 shall operate as an entity independent of staff em-
4 ployed by the Head start agency, entity, or applicant
5 and have the following duties and responsibilities:

6 “(A) To provide independent oversight to
7 ensure that the Head Start agency is delivering
8 high quality services to children and families in
9 compliance with all applicable standards in ef-
10 fect under this subchapter and with the applica-
11 ble performance measures established by the
12 Secretary under section 644.

13 “(B) To establish 2 or more standing com-
14 mittees to facilitate governance of the Head
15 Start agency which shall include both of the fol-
16 lowing:

17 “(i) A finance committee whose pri-
18 mary responsibility shall be—

19 “(I) to develop and recommend
20 annually the operating budget of the
21 Head Start agency;

22 “(II) to review and recommend
23 to the board the selection or termi-
24 nation of independent auditors (or the

1 extension of existing audit firm) at
2 least once every 4 years;

3 “(III) to review and advise the
4 board of the audit management letter
5 provided pursuant to the chapter 75
6 of title 31 of the United States Code,
7 and of any audit findings; and

8 “(IV) to monitor agency actions
9 to correct any such audit findings or
10 other actions necessary to comply with
11 applicable laws (including regulations)
12 governing financial statements and ac-
13 counting practices.

14 “(ii) A policy committee, a majority of
15 whose representatives shall be parents of
16 children participating in a Head Start pro-
17 gram or in an Early Head Start program,
18 or of children who participated in a Head
19 Start program or in an Early Head Start
20 program in the then most recent 5-year pe-
21 riod preceding the selection of the par-
22 ticular representative involved, and whose
23 primary responsibility shall be to serve as
24 a link between parents and the Board of

1 Directors and to make recommendations
2 on—

3 “(I) the strategic direction of the
4 program, including long and short-
5 term planning goals and objectives;

6 “(II) program operation policies,
7 including standards of conduct for
8 program staff and volunteers; and

9 “(III) activities to support the
10 active involvement of parents in sup-
11 porting program operations.

12 “(C) To approve the selection and dis-
13 missal of the Head Start director, and to review
14 annually the human resources available to en-
15 sure the effective operation of the Head Start
16 agency.

17 “(D) To review and approve the major
18 operational policies of the Head Start agency,
19 including policies addressing accounting, finan-
20 cial management, procurement, record confiden-
21 tiality, and personnel (including specific stand-
22 ards governing salaries, salary adjustments,
23 travel and per diem allowances, and other em-
24 ployee benefits).

1 “(E) To ensure that the Head Start agen-
2 cy is operated in compliance with applicable
3 Federal, State, and local laws (including regula-
4 tions), and to monitor agency implementation of
5 any corrective action necessary to comply with
6 applicable laws (including regulations);

7 “(F) To oversee the program planning of
8 the Head Start agency, including adoption of
9 the Head Start agency philosophy and mission
10 statement, adoption of policies for determining
11 community needs, setting long- and short-range
12 goals and objectives, establishment of criteria
13 for selecting families in Head Start or Early
14 Head Start programs, and to oversee and ap-
15 prove the agency’s applications to receive funds
16 made available under this subchapter; and

17 “(G) To establish, adopt, and periodically
18 update a written ‘Standards of Conduct’ that
19 establishes standards and procedures for dis-
20 closing and addressing conflicts of interest, and
21 the appearance of conflicts of interest, by board
22 members, officers, employees, consultants, and
23 agents who provide services or furnish goods to
24 the Head Start agency.

1 “(5) Seek the involvement of parents, area resi-
2 dents, and local business in the design and imple-
3 mentation of the program.

4 “(6) Provide technical and other support need-
5 ed to enable parents and area residents to secure on
6 their own behalf available assistance from public and
7 private sources.

8 “(7) Establish effective procedures to facilitate
9 the involvement of parents of participating children
10 in activities designed to help such parents become
11 full partners in the education of their children, and
12 to afford such parents the opportunity to participate
13 in the development and overall conduct of the pro-
14 gram at the local level.

15 “(8) Conduct outreach to schools in which
16 Head Start children enroll, local educational agen-
17 cies, the local business community, community-based
18 organizations, faith-based organizations, museums,
19 and libraries to generate support and leverage the
20 resources of the entire local community in order to
21 improve school readiness.

22 “(9) Offer (directly or through referral to local
23 entities, such as entities carrying out Even Start
24 programs under subpart 3 of part B of chapter 1 of
25 title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education

1 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2741 et seq.)), to parents
2 of participating children, family literacy services and
3 parenting skills training.

4 “(10) Offer to parents of participating children
5 substance abuse counseling (either directly or
6 through referral to local entities), including informa-
7 tion on drug-exposed infants and fetal alcohol syn-
8 drome.

9 “(11) At the option of such agency, offer (di-
10 rectly or through referral to local entities), to such
11 parents—

12 “(A) training in basic child development
13 (including cognitive development);

14 “(B) assistance in developing literacy and
15 communication skills;

16 “(C) opportunities to share experiences
17 with other parents (including parent-mentor re-
18 lationships);

19 “(D) regular in-home visitation; or

20 “(E) any other activity designed to help
21 such parents become full partners in the edu-
22 cation of their children.

23 “(12) Provide, with respect to each partici-
24 pating family, a family needs assessment that in-
25 cludes consultation with such parents about the ben-

1 efits of parent involvement and about the activities
2 described in paragraphs (5) through (8) in which
3 such parents may choose to be involved (taking into
4 consideration their specific family needs, work sched-
5 ules, and other responsibilities).

6 “(13) Consider providing services to assist
7 younger siblings of children participating in its Head
8 Start program to obtain health services from other
9 sources.

10 “(14) Perform community outreach to encour-
11 age individuals previously unaffiliated with Head
12 Start programs to participate in its Head Start pro-
13 gram as volunteers.

14 “(15)(A) Inform custodial parents in single-par-
15 ent families that participate in programs, activities,
16 or services carried out or provided under this sub-
17 chapter about the availability of child support serv-
18 ices for purposes of establishing paternity and ac-
19 quiring child support; and

20 “(B) refer eligible parents to the child support
21 offices of State and local governments.”;

22 (b) COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION.—Section
23 642(c) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9837(c)) is
24 amended to read as follows:

1 “(c) The head of each Head Start agency shall co-
 2 ordinate and collaborate with the State agency responsible
 3 for administering the State program carried out under the
 4 Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42
 5 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.), and other early childhood education
 6 and development programs, including programs under
 7 subtitle VII–B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assist-
 8 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431–11435), Even Start programs
 9 under subpart 3 of part B of chapter 1 of title I of the
 10 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20
 11 U.S.C. 2741 et seq.), and programs under Part C and sec-
 12 tion 619 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
 13 (20 U.S.C. 1431–1445, 1419), and the Child Abuse Pre-
 14 vention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a), serving the
 15 children and families served by the Head Start agency to
 16 carry out the provisions of this subchapter.”.

17 (c) OTHER COORDINATION.—Section 642(d) of the
 18 Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9837(d)) is amended—

19 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through
 20 (4) as paragraph (5) through (7), respectively;

21 (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
 22 lowing:

23 “(2) COORDINATION.—

24 “(A) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—In
 25 communities where both public prekindergarten

1 programs and Head Start programs operate, a
2 Head Start agency shall collaborate and coordi-
3 nate activities with the local educational agency
4 or other public agency responsible for the oper-
5 ation of the prekindergarten program and pro-
6 viders of prekindergarten, including outreach
7 activities to identify eligible children.

8 “(B) ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.—Head Start
9 staff shall, with the permission of the parents
10 of children enrolled in Head Start programs,
11 regularly communicate with the elementary
12 schools such children will be attending—

13 “(i) to share information about such
14 children;

15 “(ii) to get advice and support from
16 the teachers in such elementary schools
17 participating in programs funded under
18 title I of subpart 1 of the Elementary and
19 Secondary Education Act of 1965 regard-
20 ing scientifically based teaching strategies
21 and options; and

22 “(iii) to ensure a smooth transition to
23 elementary school for such children.

24 “(C) OTHER PROGRAMS.—The head of
25 each Head Start agency shall coordinate activi-

ties and collaborate with the State agency responsible for administering the State program carried out under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 et seq.), and other entities carrying out early childhood education and development programs, programs under subtitle B of title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.), Even Start programs under subpart 3 of part B of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6381 et seq.), and programs under section 619 and part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 1431 et seq.), serving the children and families served by the Head Start agency.

“(3) COLLABORATION.—A Head Start agency shall take steps to coordinate activities with the local educational agency serving the community involved and with schools in which children participating in a Head Start program operated by such agency will enroll following such program, including—

“(A) collaborating on the shared use of transportation and facilities;

1 “(B) collaborating to enhance the effi-
2 ciency of services while increasing the program
3 participation of underserved populations of eli-
4 gible children; and

5 “(C) exchanging information on the provi-
6 sion of noneducational services to such children.

7 “(4) PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT.—In order to
8 promote the continued involvement of the parents of
9 children that participate in Head Start programs in
10 the education of their children upon transition to
11 school, the Head Start agency shall—

12 “(A) provide training to the parents—

13 “(i) to inform the parents about their
14 rights and responsibilities concerning the
15 education of their children; and

16 “(ii) to enable the parents—

17 “(I) to understand and work with
18 schools in order to communicate with
19 teachers and other school personnel;

20 “(II) to support the schoolwork
21 of their children; and

22 “(III) to participate as appro-
23 priate in decisions relating to the edu-
24 cation of their children; and

1 “(B) take other actions, as appropriate
2 and feasible, to support the active involvement
3 of the parents with schools, school personnel,
4 and school-related organizations.”;

5 (3) in paragraph (5), as so redesignated—

6 (A) by striking “A” and inserting “Each”;

7 (B) by striking “may” and inserting
8 “shall”;

9 (C) by striking “and” at the end of sub-
10 paragraph (A); and

11 (D) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as
12 subparagraph (C); and

13 (E) by inserting after subparagraph (A)
14 the following:

15 “(B) collaborating to increase the program par-
16 ticipation of underserved populations of eligible chil-
17 dren; and”; and

18 (4) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(6) Head Start agencies shall implement a research-
20 based early childhood curricula that promotes young chil-
21 dren’s school readiness in the areas of language and cog-
22 nitive development, early reading and premathematics
23 skills, socio-emotional skills, physical development, and ap-
24 proaches to learning. Such curricula should be—

1 “(A) based on scientifically based research and
2 have standardized training procedures and published
3 curriculum materials to support implementation; and

4 “(B) comprehensive, balance child and teacher-
5 initiated activities, be outcomes based, and be linked
6 to ongoing assessment with concrete instructional
7 goals and objectives.

8 “(7) Head Start agencies shall use ongoing, research-
9 based assessment methods that are developmentally ap-
10 propriate, culturally and linguistically responsive, and tied
11 to children’s daily activities in order to support the edu-
12 cational instruction of children in the program, including
13 language skills, prereading knowledge and premathematics
14 knowledge. Assessment instruments shall be those de-
15 signed and validated for making decisions about teaching
16 and learning and aligned with the program’s curricula and
17 Section 641A(a)(1).

18 “(8) For the purpose of meeting the performance
19 standards, Head Start agencies shall use high-quality re-
20 search-based developmental screening tools that have been
21 demonstrated to be standardized, reliable, valid, and accu-
22 rate for children from a range of racial, ethnic, linguistic,
23 and cultural backgrounds.”.

1 (d) ASSESSMENT.—Section 642 of the Head Start
 2 Act (42 U.S.C. 9837) is amended by striking subsection
 3 (e) and inserting the following:

4 “(e) ASSESSMENT.—Each Head Start agency shall
 5 adopt, in consultation with experts in child development
 6 and with classroom teachers, an assessment to be used
 7 when hiring or evaluating any classroom teacher in a cen-
 8 ter-based Head Start program. Such assessment shall
 9 measure whether such teacher has mastered the functions
 10 described in section 648A(a)(1) and attained a level of lit-
 11 eracy appropriate to implement Head Start curricula.

12 “(f) FUNDED ENROLLMENT; WAITING LIST.—Each
 13 Head Start agency shall enroll 100 percent of its funded
 14 enrollment and maintain an active waiting list at all times
 15 with ongoing outreach to the community and activities to
 16 identify underserved populations.”.

17 **SEC. 10. LOCAL AND STATE INTEGRATION OF EARLY**
 18 **CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.**

19 The Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et. seq.) is
 20 amended by inserting after section 642A the following:

21 **“SEC. 642B. LOCAL AND STATE INTEGRATION OF EARLY**
 22 **CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.**

23 “(a) LOCAL INTEGRATION.—In general, Head Start
 24 agencies shall enter into ongoing partnerships with local
 25 educational agencies, State-funded preschool and other

1 early childhood programs. Head Start agencies shall oper-
2 ate in a manner consistent with the goal of creating and
3 expanding an efficient and effective system of early child-
4 hood and school readiness services in each State and com-
5 munity, while maintaining compliance with Standards
6 under section 641A(a).

7 “(1) MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING.—Each
8 Head Start agency shall enter into a memorandum
9 of understanding with any local educational agencies
10 or local councils, responsible for managing publicly
11 funded prekindergarten programs in the service area
12 of the Head Start agency (or if such agencies and
13 such councils are not applicable in the service area,
14 with the largest provider of publicly funded pre-
15 kindergarten in the service area), that shall include
16 plans to coordinate the following activities:

17 “(A) Educational activities, curricula, and
18 instruction aligned to State developed K-12
19 academic standards, as defined by section
20 1111(b)(1) of the Elementary and Secondary
21 Education Act of 1965.

22 “(B) Public information dissemination and
23 access to programs for families contacting any
24 of the early childhood programs.

1 “(C) Selection priorities for eligible chil-
2 dren to be served by programs.

3 “(D) Service delivery areas.

4 “(E) Staff training, including opportunities
5 for joint staff training on topics such as aca-
6 demic content standards and instructional
7 methods.

8 “(F) Program technical assistance.

9 “(G) Provision of additional services to
10 meet the child care needs of working parents.

11 “(H) Planning and parent education for
12 smooth transitions to kindergarten as required
13 in section 642A(3) and 642A(6).

14 “(I) Provision and use of facilities, trans-
15 portation, and other program elements, and

16 “(J) Other elements mutually agreed to by
17 the parties to such memorandum.

18 “(2) TIMING OF MEMORANDA—Each Head
19 Start agency shall enter into a memorandum of un-
20 derstanding under paragraph (1) not later than 1
21 year after the effective date of this section.

22 “(3) SECRETARIAL REVIEW.—Each memo-
23 randum of understanding entered into under para-
24 graph (1) shall be submitted to the Secretary not

1 later than 30 days after entering into such memo-
2 randum.

3 “(A) If a Head Start agency is unable to
4 comply with the requirement in (1) the Head
5 Start agency shall notify the Secretary and the
6 chief executive officer of the State not later
7 than 30 days after determining that they are
8 unable to enter into such memorandum. The
9 Secretary, in cooperation with the State Early
10 Learning Council and the State Director of
11 Head Start Collaboration, shall evaluate the
12 causes of failure to enter into a memorandum
13 of understanding under paragraph (1). With
14 the assistance of the State Early Learning
15 Council and the State Director of Head Start
16 Collaboration, all parties shall again attempt to
17 enter into a memorandum of understanding
18 under paragraph (1). Then if no such memo-
19 randum of understanding is entered into, the
20 Secretary shall make 1 of the following deter-
21 minations:

22 “(i) The local educational agency,
23 local council, or other appropriate entity is
24 unable or unwilling to enter into such a

1 memorandum despite reasonable efforts on
2 the part of the Head Start agency.

3 “(ii) The Head Start agency has not
4 engaged in reasonable efforts to success-
5 fully negotiate and enter into a memo-
6 randum of understanding pursuant to
7 paragraph (1).

8 “(iii) There is an absence of publicly
9 funded prekindergarten in the service area
10 of the Head Start agency.

11 “(B) If the Secretary determines the Head
12 Start agency is not making reasonable efforts
13 to enter into a memorandum of understanding
14 pursuant to paragraph (1), the Head Start
15 agency shall be found deficient and shall be
16 considered by the Secretary in the same manner
17 as other deficiency findings.

18 “(C) If the Secretary concludes that the
19 local educational agency, local council, or other
20 appropriate entity is not making reasonable ef-
21 forts to reach such a memorandum of under-
22 standing, the Head Start agency shall not be
23 found out of compliance with paragraph (1).

24 “(4) REVISION OF MEMORANDA—Each memo-
25 randum of understanding shall be revised and re-

1 newed annually by the parties to such memorandum,
2 in alignment with the beginning of the school year.

3 “(5) ABSENCE OF PREKINDERGARTEN.—In the
4 absence of publicly funded prekindergarten in the
5 service area of a Head Start agency, the Head Start
6 agency shall submit notice to the Secretary and the
7 chief executive officer of the State and shall work
8 with the State Early Learning Council and the State
9 Director of Head Start Collaboration to improve co-
10 ordination in their service area.

11 “(b) STATEWIDE INTEGRATION.—From the amounts
12 reserved and allotted in section 640(a)(4) and the
13 amounts reserved in section 640(a)(2)(C)(ii), the Sec-
14 retary shall award an early learning collaboration grant
15 to each State for the purposes of supporting a State Early
16 Learning Council responsible for advancing the develop-
17 ment of a coordinated early childhood services delivery sys-
18 tem in the State. A State that receives a grant under this
19 subparagraph shall—

20 “(1) establish a State Early Learning Council,
21 which shall include the State Director of Head Start
22 Collaboration, representatives from the State pre-
23 school programs, representatives of local educational
24 agencies, representatives of State child care pro-
25 grams, representatives of State preschool special

1 education programs, and representatives from Head
2 Start agencies located in the State. The chief execu-
3 tive officer of the State may designate an existing
4 entity to serve as the Early Learning Council if such
5 entity includes representatives described in this
6 paragraph;

7 “(2) ensure that allotted funds distributed to a
8 State for a fiscal year to carry out this subsection
9 may be used by the State to pay not more than 30
10 percent of the cost of carrying out this subsection;

11 “(3) direct the Early Learning Council—

12 “(A) to increase coordination and collabora-
13 tion among State preschool, Head Start pro-
14 grams, child care programs, early childhood
15 special education, and other early childhood
16 programs, including in the areas of outcomes
17 and standards, technical assistance, coordina-
18 tion of services, cross-sector professional devel-
19 opment and training, outreach, communication,
20 and better serving the needs of working families
21 through provision of full-day and full-year early
22 education services;

23 “(B) to work with State agencies respon-
24 sible for education, child care, and early inter-
25 vention to provide leadership and assistance to

1 local Head Start programs, school districts, and
2 State and locally funded preschool and child
3 care programs to increase integration among
4 early childhood programs through adoption of
5 local memoranda of understanding described in
6 subparagraph (A) and other means;

7 “(C) to conduct periodic statewide needs
8 assessments concerning early care and edu-
9 cation programs for children from birth to
10 school entry;

11 “(D) to work to identify and address bar-
12 riers to and opportunities for integration be-
13 tween entities carrying out Federal and State
14 child development, child care, and early child-
15 hood education programs;

16 “(E) to develop recommendations regard-
17 ing means of establishing a unified data collec-
18 tion system for early care and education pro-
19 grams operating throughout the State;

20 “(F) to address coordination of early
21 learning programs with health care, welfare,
22 family literacy and services for homeless chil-
23 dren; and

24 “(G) to support a State system of early
25 childhood education, and training and technical

1 assistance that improves the quality of early
2 learning programs and the capacity of such pro-
3 grams to deliver services pursuant to section
4 648(b).

5 “(4) Nothing in this subsection shall be con-
6 strued to provide the Early Learning Council with
7 authority to alter the provisions of this Act.

8 “(5) Funds made available under this section
9 shall be used to supplement, and not supplant, other
10 Federal, State, and local funds that would otherwise
11 be expended to carry out the purposes of this sec-
12 tion.

13 “(c) STATE DIRECTOR OF HEAD START COLLABORA-
14 TION.—The chief executive officer of the State shall ap-
15 point an individual to serve as the State Director of Head
16 Start Collaboration and shall ensure that the Director
17 holds a position with sufficient authority and access to be
18 capable of facilitating the coordination of programs de-
19 signed to benefit low-income children and their families.
20 Such position shall be located within the State Early
21 Learning Council and shall require the Director—

22 “(1) to collaborate with entities involved in
23 State and local planning processes to better meet the
24 needs of low income families and children from birth
25 to school entry;

1 “(2) to assist Head Start agencies in coordi-
 2 nating activities with the State agency responsible
 3 for administering the State program carried out
 4 under the Child Care and Development Block Grant
 5 Act of 1990 and entities that provide child care re-
 6 source and referral services in the State to make
 7 full-day and full calendar year services available to
 8 children;

9 “(3) to align Head Start and State prekindergarten activities to meet shared goals of school readiness; and

12 “(4) to establish improved linkages between
 13 Head Start agencies and other children and family
 14 agencies, including agencies that provide health,
 15 mental health or family services or other child and
 16 family support services.”.

17 **SEC. 11. HEAD START ALIGNMENT WITH K-12 EDUCATION.**

18 Section 642A of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
 19 9837a) is amended—

20 (1) by amending the heading to read as follows:

21 **“SEC. 642A. HEAD START ALIGNMENT WITH K-12 EDU-**
 22 **CATION.”;**

23 (2) in paragraph (2)—

24 (A) by inserting “ongoing” after “estab-

25 lishing”; and

1 (B) after “social workers,” by inserting the
2 following: “McKinney-Vento liaisons as estab-
3 lished under section 722 (g)(1)(J)(ii) of the
4 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act,”;

5 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through
6 (7) as paragraphs (5) through (9), respectively;

7 (4) by inserting the following after paragraph
8 (2):

9 “(3) developing continuity of developmentally
10 appropriate curricula between Head Start and local
11 educational agencies to ensure an effective transition
12 and appropriate shared expectations for children’s
13 learning and development as they make such transi-
14 tion to school;

15 “(4) organizing and participating in joint train-
16 ing, including transition-related training for school
17 staff and Head Start staff;”;

18 (5) by amending paragraph (7), as so redesign-
19 nated, to read as follows:

20 “(7) developing and implementing a family out-
21 reach and support program in cooperation with enti-
22 ties carrying out parental involvement efforts under
23 title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education
24 Act of 1965 and family outreach and support efforts

1 under subtitle VII–B of the McKinney-Vento Home-
2 less Assistance Act;”;

3 (6) in paragraph (8), as so redesignated—

4 (A) by inserting “and continuity in paren-
5 tal involvement activities” after “developmental
6 continuity”; and

7 (B) by striking “and” at the end of para-
8 graph (8), as so redesignated;

9 (7) by amending paragraph (9), as so redesign-
10 ated, to read as follows:

11 “(9) linking the services provided in such Head
12 Start program with the education services, including
13 services relating to language, literacy, and
14 numeracy, provided by such local educational agen-
15 cy;”; and

16 (8) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(10) helping parents to understand the impor-
18 tance of parental involvement in a child’s academic
19 success while teaching them strategies for maintain-
20 ing parental involvement as their child moves from
21 Head Start to elementary school;

22 “(11) developing and implementing a system to
23 increase program participation of underserved popu-
24 lations of eligible children; and

1 “(12) coordinating activities and collaborating
 2 to ensure that curricula used in the Head Start pro-
 3 gram is aligned with State early learning standards
 4 with regard to cognitive, social, emotional, and phys-
 5 ical competencies that children entering kinder-
 6 garten are expected to demonstrate.”.

7 **SEC. 12. ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS AND STAND-**
 8 **ARDS.**

9 Section 644 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
 10 9839(f)(2)) is amended—

11 (1) in subsection (a)—

12 (A) by inserting “(1) STANDARDS.—”
 13 after “(a)”; and

14 (B) by inserting after the 3d sentence the
 15 following:

16 “(2) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each Head Start agency
 17 shall make available to the public a report published at
 18 least once in each fiscal year that discloses the following
 19 information from the then most recently concluded fiscal
 20 year:

21 “(A) The total amount of public and private
 22 funds received and the amount from each source.

23 “(B) An explanation of budgetary expenditures
 24 and proposed budget for following fiscal year.

1 “(C) The Total number of children and families
2 served and percent of average monthly enrollment,
3 including the percent of eligible children served.

4 “(D) The results of the most recent review by
5 the Secretary and the financial audit.

6 “(E) The percentage of enrolled children that
7 received medical and dental exams.

8 “(F) Information about parent involvement ac-
9 tivities.

10 “(G) The performance of the agency in pre-
11 paring children for kindergarten.

12 “(H) Any other information that describes the
13 activities of the agency.

14 “(3) PROCEDURAL CONDUCT.—”; and

15 (2) in subsection (f)(2)

16 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)
17 through (E) as subparagraphs (B) through (F),
18 respectively; and

19 (B) by inserting before subparagraph (B),
20 as so redesignated, the following:

21 “(A) a description of the consultation conducted
22 by the Head Start agency with the providers in the
23 community demonstrating capacity and capability to
24 provide services under this subchapter, and of the
25 potential for collaboration with such providers and

1 the cost effectiveness of such collaboration as op-
2 posed to the cost effectiveness of the purchase of a
3 facility;”.

4 **SEC. 13. ELIGIBILITY.**

5 Section 645(a) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
6 9840) is amended—

7 (1) in paragraph (1)—

8 (A) in subparagraph (B)(i)—

9 (i) by striking “to a reasonable ex-
10 tent” and inserting “not to exceed 10 per-
11 cent of the total enrollment”; and

12 (ii) by striking “benefit from such
13 programs” and inserting “benefit from
14 such programs, including children referred
15 by child welfare services,”; and

16 (B) by adding at the end the following:

17 “A homeless child shall be deemed to meet the low-income
18 criteria.”; and

19 (2) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(3) The amount of a basic allowance provided under
21 section 403 of title 37, United States Code, on behalf of
22 an individual who is a member of the uniformed services
23 for housing that is acquired or constructed under the au-
24 thority of subchapter IV of chapter 169 of title 10, United
25 States Code, or any other related provision of law, shall

1 not be considered to be income for purposes of deter-
2 mining the eligibility of a child of the individual for pro-
3 grams assisted under this subchapter.”.

4 **SEC. 14. EARLY HEAD START PROGRAMS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 645A(b) of the Head
6 Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9640a(b)) is amended—

7 (1) by amending paragraphs (4) and (5) to
8 read as follows:

9 “(4) provide services to parents to support their
10 role as parents (including parenting skills training
11 and training in basic child development) and to help
12 the families move toward self-sufficiency (including
13 educational and employment services as appro-
14 priate);

15 “(5) coordinate services with services (including
16 home-based services) provided by programs in the
17 State and programs in the community (including
18 programs for infants and toddlers with disabilities)
19 to ensure a comprehensive array of services (such as
20 health and mental health services, and family sup-
21 port services);”;

22 (2) by amending paragraph (8) to read as fol-
23 lows:

24 “(8) ensure formal linkages with the agencies
25 and entities described in section 644(b) of the Indi-

1 individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
2 1444(b)) and providers of early intervention services
3 for infants and toddlers with disabilities under the
4 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20
5 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.) and the agency responsible for
6 administering the section 106 of the Child Abuse
7 Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a);”.

8 (3) by redesignating paragraph (9) as para-
9 graph (11); and

10 (4) by inserting after paragraph (8) the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(9) develop and implement a systematic proce-
13 dure for transitioning children and parents from an
14 Early Head Start program into a Head Start pro-
15 gram or another local early childhood education pro-
16 gram;

17 “(10) establish channels of communication be-
18 tween staff of Early Head Start programs and staff
19 of Head Start programs or other local early child-
20 hood education programs, to facilitate the coordina-
21 tion of programs; and”.

22 (b) MIGRANT AND SEASONAL PROGRAMS;
23 COMMUNITY- AND FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS.—Sec-
24 tion 645A(d) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9640a(d))
25 is amended—

1 (1) by amending paragraph (1) to read as fol-
2 lows:

3 “(1) entities operating Head Start programs
4 under this subpart, including migrant and seasonal
5 Head Start programs; and”; and

6 (2) in paragraph (2) of the Head Start Act (42
7 U.S.C. 9643(d)(2)) is amended by inserting “, in-
8 cluding community- and faith-based organizations”
9 after “entities” the 2d place it appears.

10 (c) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AC-
11 COUNT.—Section 645A(g)(2)(B) of the Head Start Act
12 (42 U.S.C. 9640a(g)(2)(B)) is amended—

13 (1) in clause (iii) by striking “and” at the end;

14 (2) in clause (iv) by striking the period at the
15 end and inserting “; and”; and

16 (3) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(v) providing professional develop-
18 ment designed to increase program partici-
19 pation for underserved populations of eligi-
20 ble children.”.

21 (d) CENTER-BASED STAFF.—Section 645A of the
22 Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9640a) is amended by adding
23 at the end the following:

24 “(h) CENTER-BASED STAFF.—The Secretary shall
25 ensure that, not later than September 30, 2008, all teach-

ers providing direct services to Early Head Start children and families in Early Head Start centers have a minimum of a child development associate credential or an associate degree, and have been trained (or have equivalent course work) in early childhood development.”.

**SEC. 15. PARENTAL CONSENT REQUIREMENT FOR NON-
EMERGENCY INTRUSIVE PHYSICAL EXAMINA-
TIONS.**

The Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 645A the following:

**“SEC. 645B. PARENTAL CONSENT REQUIREMENT FOR NON-
EMERGENCY INTRUSIVE PHYSICAL EXAMINA-
TIONS.**

“(a) DEFINITION.—The term ‘nonemergency intrusive physical examination’ means, with respect to a child, a physical examination that—

“(1) is not immediately necessary to protect the health or safety of such child, or the health or safety of another individual; and

“(2) includes incision or is otherwise invasive, or includes exposure of private body parts.

“(b) REQUIREMENT.—Before administering any health care service (including any nonemergency intrusive physical examination) to a child (or referring such child to obtain such service) in connection with participation in

1 a program under this subchapter, a Head Start agency
2 and an entity that receives assistance under section 645A
3 shall obtain the written consent of a parent of such child.

4 “(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
5 tion shall be construed to prohibit a Head Start agency
6 or an entity that receives assistance under section 645A
7 from using established methods, for handling cases of sus-
8 pected or known child abuse and neglect, that are in com-
9 pliance with applicable Federal, State, or tribal law.”.

10 **SEC. 16. RIGHT TO APPEAL.**

11 Section 646(a)(3) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
12 9841(a)(3)) is amended to read as follows:

13 “(3) if financial assistance under this subchapter is
14 terminated or reduced, an application for a noncompeting
15 continuation award is denied based on a previous failure
16 to comply with terms applicable to financial assistance
17 previously provided this subchapter, or suspension of fi-
18 nancial assistance is continued for more than 30 days, the
19 recipient with respect to whom such action is taken shall
20 have the opportunity to appeal such action in accordance
21 with such procedures, except that no funds made available
22 under this subchapter may be used to reimburse any such
23 recipient for legal fees and other costs incurred in pur-
24 suing such an appeal;”.

1 **SEC. 17. AUDITS.**

2 Section 647 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9842)
3 is amended by adding at the end the following:

4 “(c)(1) Not later than 60 days after the end of each
5 fiscal year, each Head Start agency, and each entity that
6 receives assistance under section 645A, shall submit to the
7 Secretary an independent financial audit of the Head
8 Start program carried out with financial assistance pro-
9 vided under this subchapter. Such audit shall be carried
10 out by a certified public accountant selected through a
11 competitive process from among qualified certified ac-
12 countants by the local oversight board established in ac-
13 cordance with section 641(a) by such agency, except that
14 no accountant may perform audits of such program for
15 a period exceeding 2 consecutive fiscal years.

16 “(2) Not later than 60 days after receiving such
17 audit, the Secretary shall provide to such agency or such
18 entity, and to the chief executive officer of the State in
19 which such program is operated, a notice identifying the
20 actions such agency or such entity is required to take to
21 correct all deficiencies identified in such audit.

22 “(d) Each recipient of financial assistance under this
23 subchapter shall—

24 “(1) maintain, and annually submit to the Sec-
25 retary, a complete accounting of its administrative
26 expenses (including a detailed statement identifying

1 the amount of financial assistance provided under
 2 this subchapter used to pay expenses for salaries
 3 and compensation and the amount (if any) of other
 4 funds used to pay such expenses); and
 5 “(2) provide such additional documentation as
 6 the Secretary may require.”.

7 **SEC. 18. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.**

8 (a) STATE-BASED SYSTEM.—Section 648 of the
 9 Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9843) is amended—

10 (1) by redesignating subsections (b) through (e)
 11 as subsections (c) through (f), respectively; and

12 (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
 13 lowing:

14 “(b) The Secretary shall make available to each State
 15 the money reserved in section 640(a)(2)(C)(ii) to support
 16 a State-based system delivering training and technical as-
 17 sistance that improves the capacity of Head Start pro-
 18 grams within a State to deliver services in accordance with
 19 the Head Start standards in section 641A(a)(1), with par-
 20 ticular attention to the standards set forth in subpara-
 21 graphs (A) and (B) of such section. The Secretary shall—

22 “(1) ensure eligible entities within a State are
 23 chosen by the Secretary, in consultation with the
 24 State Collaboration Board described in section
 25 640(a)(5)(C)(i), through a competitive bid process;

1 “(2) ensure that existing agencies with dem-
2 onstrated expertise in providing high quality training
3 and technical assistance to improve the delivery of
4 Head Start services, including the State Head Start
5 Association, State agencies, migrant and seasonal
6 Head Start programs operating in the State, and
7 other entities currently providing training and tech-
8 nical assistance in early education, be included in
9 the planning and coordination of the State system of
10 training and technical assistance; and

11 “(3) encourage States to supplement the funds
12 authorized in section 640(a)(2)(C)(ii) with State,
13 Federal, or local funds other than Head Start funds,
14 to expand activities beyond Head Start agencies to
15 include other providers of other early childhood serv-
16 ices within a State.”.

17 (b) ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES.—Section 648(d) of
18 the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9843(d)), as so redesign-
19 nated, is amended—

20 (1) in paragraph (2) by inserting “and for ac-
21 tivities described in section 1221(b)(3) of the Ele-
22 mentary and Secondary Education Act of 1965”
23 after “disabilities” ; and

1 (2) in paragraph (5) by inserting “, including
2 the needs of homeless children and their families”
3 after “assessment”;

4 (3) in paragraph (10) by striking “and” at the
5 end;

6 (4) in paragraph (11) by striking the period at
7 the end and inserting “; and”; and

8 (5) by adding the following at the end:

9 “(12) assist Head Start agencies and programs
10 in increasing program participation of homeless chil-
11 dren.”.

12 (c) TRAINING IN USE OF MEDIA.—Section 648(e) of
13 the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9843(e)), as so redesign-
14 nated, is amended by inserting “, including community-
15 and faith-based organizations” after “entities”.

16 (d) CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL ASSESS-
17 MENT PROGRAM.—Section 648(f) of the Head Start Act
18 (42 U.S.C. 9843(f)), as so redesignated, is amended to
19 read as follows:

20 “(f) The Secretary shall provide, either directly or
21 through grants or other arrangements, funds from pro-
22 grams authorized under this subchapter to support an or-
23 ganization to administer a centralized child development
24 and national assessment program leading to recognized
25 credentials for personnel working in early childhood devel-

1 opment and child care programs, training for personnel
2 providing services to non-English language background
3 children (including services to promote the acquisition of
4 the English language), training for personnel providing
5 services to children determined to be abused or neglected,
6 training for personnel providing services to children re-
7 ferred by or receiving child welfare services, training for
8 personnel in helping children cope with community vio-
9 lence, and resource access projects for personnel working
10 with disabled children.”.

11 (e) ADDRESSING UNIQUE NEEDS.—Section 648 of
12 the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9843) is amended by add-
13 ing at the end the following:

14 “(g) HELPING PERSONNEL BETTER SERVE MI-
15 GRANT AND SEASONAL FARM-WORKING COMMUNITIES
16 AND HOMELESS FAMILIES.—The Secretary shall provide,
17 either directly or through grants, or other arrangements,
18 funds for training of Head Start personnel in addressing
19 the unique needs of migrant and seasonal working fami-
20 lies, families with a limited English proficiency, and home-
21 less families.

22 “(h) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—More than 50 per-
23 cent of funds expended under this section shall be used
24 to provide high quality, sustained, intensive, and class-
25 room-focused training and technical assistance in order to

1 have a positive and lasting impact on classroom instruc-
2 tion. Funds shall be used to carry out activities related
3 to any or all of the following:

4 “(1) Education and early childhood develop-
5 ment.

6 “(2) Child health, nutrition, and safety.

7 “(3) Family and community partnerships.

8 “(4) Other areas that impact the quality or
9 overall effectiveness of Head Start programs.

10 “(i) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Funds under
11 this subchapter used for training shall be used for needs
12 identified annually by a grant applicant or delegate agency
13 in their program improvement plan, except that funds
14 shall not be used for long-distance travel expenses for
15 training activities available locally or regionally or for
16 training activities substantially similar to locally or region-
17 ally available training activities.

18 “(j)(1) The Secretary shall work in collaboration with
19 the Head Start agencies that carry out migrant and sea-
20 sonal Head Start programs, State Collaboration Directors,
21 the Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Collaboration
22 Project Director, and other appropriate entities—

23 “(A) to accurately determine the number of
24 children nationwide who are eligible to participate in

1 migrant and seasonal Head Start programs each
2 year; and

3 “(B) to document how many of these children
4 are receiving Head Start services each year; and

5 “(C) to the extent practicable, to ensure that
6 access to migrant and seasonal Head Start pro-
7 grams for eligible children is comparable to access to
8 other Head Start programs for other eligible chil-
9 dren;

10 “(2) In carrying out paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary
11 shall consult with the Secretary of Education about the
12 Department of Education’s systems for collecting and re-
13 porting data about, and maintaining records on, students
14 from migrant and seasonal farmworker families.

15 “(3) Not later than 1 year after the effective date
16 of this subsection, the Secretary shall submit a report to
17 the Congress detailing how the Department of Health and
18 Human Services plans to carry out paragraph (1).”.

19 “(k) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
20 term ‘eligible entities’ means an institution of higher edu-
21 cation or other entity with expertise in delivering training
22 in early childhood development, family support, and other
23 assistance designed to improve the delivery of Head Start
24 services.”.

1 **SEC. 19. STAFF QUALIFICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT.**

2 (a) **CLASSROOM TEACHERS.**—Section 648A(a)(2) of
3 the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9843a(a)(2)) is amended
4 to read as follows:

5 “(2) **DEGREE REQUIREMENTS.**—

6 “(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall
7 ensure that not later than September 30, 2010,
8 at least 50 percent of all Head Start teachers
9 nationwide in center-based programs have—

10 “(i) a baccalaureate or advanced de-
11 gree in early childhood education; or

12 “(ii) a baccalaureate or advanced de-
13 gree in a field related to early childhood
14 education, with experience in teaching pre-
15 school children.

16 “(B) **PROGRESS.**—Each Head State agen-
17 cy shall provide to the Secretary a report indi-
18 cating the number and percentage of classroom
19 instructors with child development associate
20 credentials and associate, baccalaureate, or ad-
21 vanced degrees. The Secretary shall compile all
22 program reports and make them available to
23 the Committee on Education and the Workforce
24 of the United States House of Representatives
25 and the Committee on Health, Education,

1 Labor, and Pensions of the United States Sen-
2 ate.

3 “(C) REQUIREMENT FOR NEW HEAD
4 START TEACHERS.—Within 3 years after the ef-
5 fective date of this subparagraph, the Secretary
6 shall require that all Head Start teachers na-
7 tionwide in center-based programs hired fol-
8 lowing the effective date of this subparagraph—

9 “(i) have an associate, baccalaureate,
10 or advanced degree in early childhood edu-
11 cation;

12 “(ii) have an associate, baccalaureate,
13 or advanced degree in a field related to
14 early childhood education, with experience
15 in teaching preschool children; or

16 “(iii) be currently enrolled in a pro-
17 gram of study leading to an associate de-
18 gree in early childhood education and
19 agree to complete degree requirements
20 within 3 years from the date of hire.

21 “(D) SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-
22 retary shall establish requirements to ensure
23 that individuals who receive financial assistance
24 under this subchapter in order to comply with
25 the requirements under section 648A(a)(2)

1 shall subsequently teach in a Head Start center
 2 for a period of time equivalent to the period for
 3 which they received assistance or repay the
 4 amount of the funds.

5 “(E) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall
 6 require that any Federal funds provided directly
 7 or indirectly to comply with subparagraph (A)
 8 shall be used toward degrees awarded by an in-
 9 stitution of higher education, as defined by sec-
 10 tions 101 or 102 of the Higher Education Act
 11 (20 U.S.C. 1001–1002).”.

12 (b) CLASSROOM TEACHERS.—Section 648A of the
 13 Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9843a) is amended by adding
 14 at the end the following:

15 “(f) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS.—Each
 16 Head Start agency and program shall create, in consulta-
 17 tion with an employee, a professional development plan for
 18 all full-time employees who provide direct services to chil-
 19 dren.”.

20 **SEC. 20. RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATIONS, AND EVALUATION.**

21 (a) NEW IDEAS AND APPROACHES.—Section
 22 649(a)(1)(B) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
 23 9844(a)(1)(B)) is amended to read as follows:

24 “(B) use the Head Start programs to de-
 25 velop, test, and disseminate new ideas and ap-

1 proaches based on existing scientifically based
2 research, for addressing the needs of low-in-
3 come preschool children (including children with
4 disabilities and children determined to be
5 abused or neglected) and their families and
6 communities (including demonstrations of inno-
7 vative non-center based program models such as
8 home-based and mobile programs), and other-
9 wise to further the purposes of this sub-
10 chapter.”.

11 (b) STUDY.—Section 649(d) of the Head Start Act
12 (42 U.S.C. 9844(d) is amended—

13 (1) in paragraph (7) by adding “and” at the
14 end;

15 (2) in paragraph (8) by striking the semicolon
16 and inserting a period;

17 (3) by striking paragraph (9); and

18 (4) by striking the last sentence.

19 (c) EXPERT PANEL.—Section 649(g) of the Head
20 Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9844(g)) is amended—

21 (1) in paragraph (1)—

22 (A) by striking clause (i); and

23 (B) by redesignating clauses (ii) and (iii)

24 as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively; and

1 (2) in paragraph (7)(C)(i) is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 “(i) Not later than September 30,
4 2007, the Secretary shall transmit to the
5 committees specified in clause (ii) the final
6 report.”.

7 (d) NAS STUDY.—Section 649(h) of the Head Start
8 Act (42 U.S.C. 9844(h)) is amended to read as follows:

9 “(h) NAS STUDY.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall use
11 funds allocated in section 640(a)(2)(C)(iii) to con-
12 tract with the National Academy of Sciences for the
13 Board on Children, Youth, and Families of the Na-
14 tional Research Council to establish an independent
15 panel of experts which shall review and synthesize
16 research, theory and applications in the social, be-
17 havioral and biological sciences and shall make rec-
18 ommendations on early childhood pedagogy with re-
19 gard to each of the following:

20 “(A) Age and developmentally appropriate
21 Head Start academic requirements and out-
22 comes, including the domains in 641A(a)(B).

23 “(B) Differences in the type, length, mix
24 and intensity of services necessary to ensure
25 that children from challenging family and social

1 backgrounds including: low-income children,
2 children of color, children with special needs,
3 and children with limited English proficiency
4 enter kindergarten ready to succeed.

5 “(C) Appropriate assessments of young
6 children (including systematic observation as-
7 sessment in a child’s natural environment, and
8 parent and provider interviews) for purposes of
9 improving instruction, services, and program
10 quality , and accommodations for children with
11 disabilities and appropriate assessments for
12 children with special needs (including needs re-
13 lated to the acquisition of the English lan-
14 guage).

15 “(2) COMPOSITION.—The panel shall consist of
16 multiple experts in each of the following areas:

17 “(A) Child development and education, in-
18 cluding cognitive, social, emotional, physical,
19 approaches to learning, and other domains of
20 child development and learning.

21 “(B) Professional development, including
22 teacher preparation, to individuals who teach
23 young children in programs.

24 “(C) Assessment of young children, includ-
25 ing screening, diagnostic and classroom-based

1 instructional assessment; children with special
2 needs, including children with disabilities and
3 limited English proficient children.

4 “(3) TIMING.—The National Academy of
5 Sciences and the Board shall establish the panel not
6 later than 90 days after the date of enactment of
7 the date of the enactment of the School Readiness
8 Act of 2005. The panel shall complete its rec-
9 ommendations within 18 months of its convening.

10 “(4) APPLICATION OF PANEL REPORT REC-
11 OMMENDATIONS.—The recommendations of the
12 panel shall be used as guidelines by the Secretary to
13 develop, inform and revise, where appropriate, the
14 Head Start education performance measures and
15 standards and the assessments utilized in the Head
16 Start program.”.

17 **SEC. 21. REPORTS.**

18 Section 650(a) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C.
19 9845) is amended—

20 (1) by amending the first sentence to read as
21 follows:

22 “At least once during every 2-year period, the Secretary
23 shall prepare and submit, to the Committee on Education
24 and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and
25 the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions

1 of the Senate, a report concerning the status of children
2 (including disabled, homeless, and non-English language
3 background children) in Head Start programs, including
4 the number of children and the services being provided
5 to such children.”; and

6 (2) in paragraph (8) by inserting “, homeless-
7 ness” after “background”.

8 **SEC. 22. LIMITATION ON RATE OF FEDERAL FUNDING FOR**
9 **COMPENSATION.**

10 Section 653 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9848)
11 is amended—

12 (1) by striking the heading;

13 (2) by striking “SEC. 653. The” and inserting
14 the following:

15 **“SEC. 653. WAGES AND COMPENSATION.**

16 **“(a) COMPARABILITY OF WAGES.—The”;** and

17 **(3) by adding at the end the following:**

18 **“(b) FEDERAL RATE LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding**
19 **any other provision of law, no Federal funds shall be used**
20 **to pay all or any part of the compensation of an individual**
21 **employed by a Head Start agency in carrying out pro-**
22 **grams under this subchapter, either as direct or indirect**
23 **costs or any proration thereof, at a rate in excess of the**
24 **rate then payable for level II of the Executive Schedule**
25 **under section 5316 of title 5, United State Code.”.**

1 **SEC. 23. EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.**

2 (a) GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as pro-
3 vided in subsection (b), this Act and the amendments
4 made by this Act shall take effect on the date of the enact-
5 ment of this Act.

6 (b) APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.—The amend-
7 ments made by this Act shall not apply with respect to
8 any fiscal year that begins before the date of the enact-
9 ment of this Act.

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